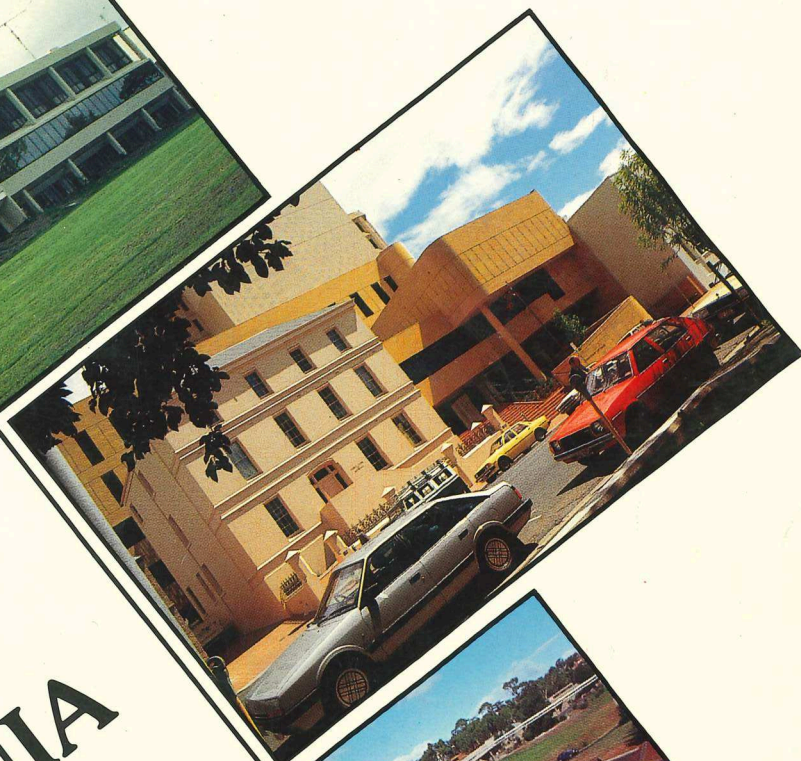
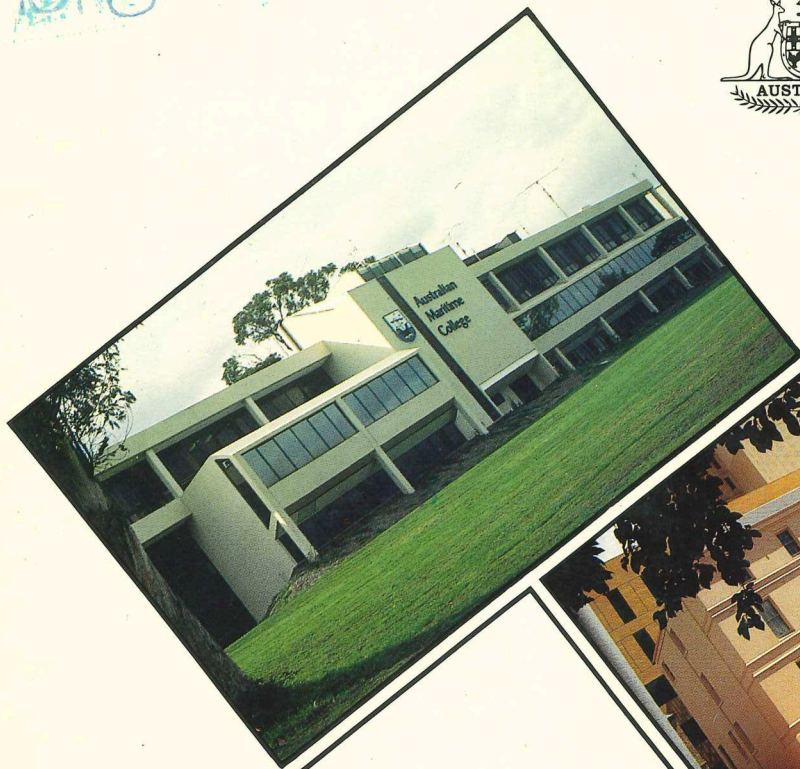


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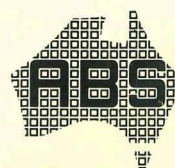
# SOCIAL REPORT TASMANIA 1985



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**SOCIAL REPORT TASMANIA**  
**1985**

SOCIAL REPORT  
TASMANIA

G.D. Cocking  
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician









# SOCIAL REPORT

## TASMANIA

G.D. Cocking  
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# SOCIAL REPORT

## TASMANIA

A.B.S. Catalogue Number 4101.6

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G.D. Cochrane  
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician



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### SYMBOLS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The following symbols, where used, mean:

- nil or rounded to zero
- — break in continuity of the series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
- (H) located in Hobart Statistical Division
- (S) located in Southern Statistical Division
- (H)(S) parts in both Divisions
- \* subject to high sampling variability

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

For tables based on the 1981 Census, small non-zero cells have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.



## PREFACE

This report has been modelled on the ABS Central Office compiled Social Indicators (Catalogue No. 4101.0). It presents statistical information related to a number of areas of social concern (health, education, working life, etc.) The statistics attempt to describe the well-being status of Tasmanians within areas of social concern, changes in that status during recent years and the institutional inputs which affect well-being.

The ABS accepts a concept of social indicators that is consistent with the approach taken by the OECD Social Indicators Development Programme. This concept may be summarised as follows:

*Social Indicators:*

- are principally time-series statistics
- measure, by methods as valid as can be obtained, the well-being of individuals
- are summary statistics representing a social concern
- should be relevant to current or potential intervention policies by providing measures of their ultimate output
- should be capable of disaggregation to describe the well-being of specified population sub-groups.

However, the ABS also attaches importance to the development of broader frameworks for social and demographic statistics, into which social indicators as defined here should be able to be fitted as an integral part. In this way it seeks to reconcile a social indicator concept on OECD lines with the UN view that social indicators alone do not provide sufficient information for decision making related to social policy. It sees social indicators as part of a more complete set of statistical tools for social policy makers. ABS development of social indicators is therefore proceeding within the context of improvements in the range of social and demographic statistics required for policy planning and the administration and evaluation of social programmes. Social indicators will be selected and derived from within the body of social and demographic statistics that are developed for these purposes.

For a fuller description of the ABS philosophy underlying the compilation of social indicator/report publications, readers are referred to the Central Office prepared 'Social Indicators', Catalogue No. 4101.0.

The final chapter of this report has been written by Dr Trevor Lee, Senior Lecturer, Geography Department, University of Tasmania. He received his MA from the University of Melbourne and his PhD from the University of London. Dr Lee has had considerable experience in the fields of social indicators conceptual and statistical work. He recently took part in the planning and development of the Department of Social Security 1984 regional office community profiles. Dr Lee has also authored the commentary for the 1976 and 1981 Census based Social Atlas of Hobart. The views which Dr. Lee expresses in Chapter Nine of this report are his own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The ABS also wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance provided by various State authorities and departments. These included Department of Community Welfare, Department of Health Services, Mental Health Services Commission, Housing Department and the Education Department.

Finally, the Tasmanian Office does not propose to issue this publication on an annual basis. Since many of the statistics used are census based the current intention is to compile a report after each census. On this basis the Office expects the next issue would be in late 1987 or 1988.



# **Chapter 1**

## **POPULATION**

### **Introduction**

Population statistics are not in themselves social indicator statistics. They are, however, included in this publication for the following reasons:

- Population statistics are important pointers to changing and emerging needs in the area of social and welfare planning. For example the changing age composition of the population has important implications for policy makers in healthcare and welfare needs of the aged, child care needs and education requirements.
- Population statistics are used in the calculation of various rates used as indicators of community well-being.
- Knowledge of the population to which the social indicators relate is basic to an understanding of the relevance of the statistics in assessing the well-being of the community.

### **Population Growth and Numbers**

Based on census counted population Tasmania's population increased by 64 per cent from 1947 to 1981. At the 1947 Census the census counted population was 255 078 persons and at the 1981 Census 418 958. (Over the same period the Australian census counted population increased by 92 per cent from 7.6 million to 14.6 million persons.) Tasmania's substantially lower growth rates can be attributed to two factors: (i) loss of population from interstate migration; (ii) Tasmania attracts less than its relative share of overseas migrants.

The following summarises the Tasmanian population growth over intercensal periods in the post World War II period.

- The 1947-1954 period was one of high growth rates for Tasmania. Annual average growth over the period was 2.7 per cent. Tasmania gained from migration; this source added almost 18 000 persons to the population. Also, the period was affected by the 'baby boom' and a high rate of natural increase occurred. Total natural increase over the period was 34 100.
- The next intercensal period 1954-1961 saw a substantial fall in the State's growth rate to an annual average of 1.8 per cent. The gain from migration over the period was only about 1 000 persons while the rate of increase resulting from natural increase began to decline as fertility started to decrease. Natural increase added 40 700 to the population.
- The next two Censuses spanned the decade 1961-1971 and saw a substantial decrease in fertility and hence in the rate of population growth attributable to natural increase. Over the 10 years this source added about 50 700 persons to the population. However, net migration, due mainly to losses to interstate migration, resulted in a loss of population of approximately 11 000. The growth rate for the State fell to an annual average of 1.1 per cent.
- The period 1971-1981 saw a continued decrease in annual average growth rates. Fertility continued to decline and natural increase added approximately 38 000 to the population. Loss from migration was in the order of 9 000 persons. Interstate migration losses of around 13 000 were partially offset by a small gain of about 4 000 from overseas migration. The State's annual average growth rate over the period of 0.7 per cent was well below the Australian average rate of 1.3 per cent per annum.

The 1971 and subsequent Censuses included a question about usual residence 5 years ago. Analysis of answers to this question showed over 50 per cent of interstate emigrants went to either New South Wales or Victoria. The next most popular destination was Queensland. As a destination for interstate migration for Tasmanians, Queensland has increased in importance from about 14 per cent of persons leaving Tasmania over the 1966-1971 period to almost 25 per cent over the 1976-1981 period. The principal sources of interstate immigration to Tasmania are Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland which together accounted for almost



75 per cent of the interstate immigration over the 1976-1981 intercensal period. Fig 1.1 illustrates the distribution between states and territories of interstate migrants to and from Tasmania for the intercensal periods 1966-1971, 1971-1976 and 1976-1981.

**Fig 1.1 PROPORTION OF INTERSTATE MIGRANTS BY DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS FROM TASMANIA AND SOURCE OF MIGRANTS TO TASMANIA**

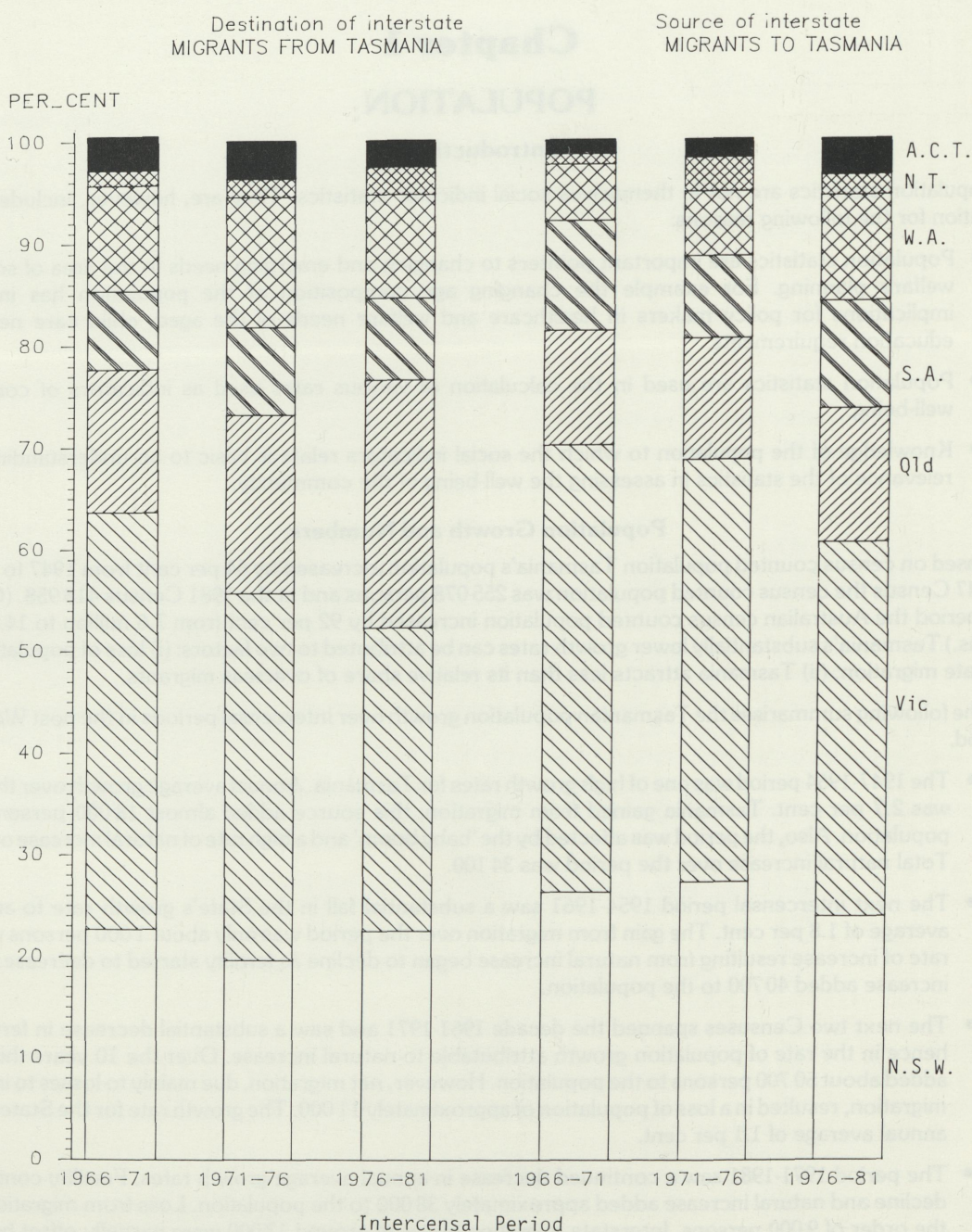


Table 1.1 shows Tasmania's average annual population growth rates for intercensal periods in the post World War II period. Rates for intercensal periods up to 1966-1971 are based on census counted population, i.e. the counted population in Tasmania at census. For the periods 1971-1976 and 1976-1981, growth rates are based on estimated resident population, i.e. the population which usually lives in Tasmania. This population is calculated at census by adjusting the census count for undercounting, adding Tasmanians temporarily out of the State and subtracting visitors to the State. (At the 1981 Census Tasmania's estimated resident population was approximately 7 700 persons greater than the census counted population.)



Table 1.1 Annual Average Growth Rates, Tasmania:  
Post World War II Intercensal Periods

Intercensal period	POPULATION		Annual average growth rate (%)
	Beginning of period	End of period	
1947-1954 (a) (b) .....	257 080	308 750	2.7
1954-1961 (a) (b) .....	308 750	350 340	1.8
1961-1966 (a) (b) .....	350 340	371 440	1.2
1966-1971 (a) .....	371 440	390 410	1.0
1971-1976 (c) .....	398 100	412 300	0.7
1976-1981 (c) .....	412 300	427 300	0.7

- (a) Census counted population.
- (b) Prior to 1966 excludes full-blood Aboriginals.
- (c) Estimated resident population.

The following chart compares Tasmania's annual growth rate with the Australian rate over the period 30 June 1971 to 30 June 1983 (rates are based on estimated resident population).

Fig 1.2 POPULATION ANNUAL GROWTH RATES  
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1972 TO 1983  
AUSTRALIA AND TASMANIA

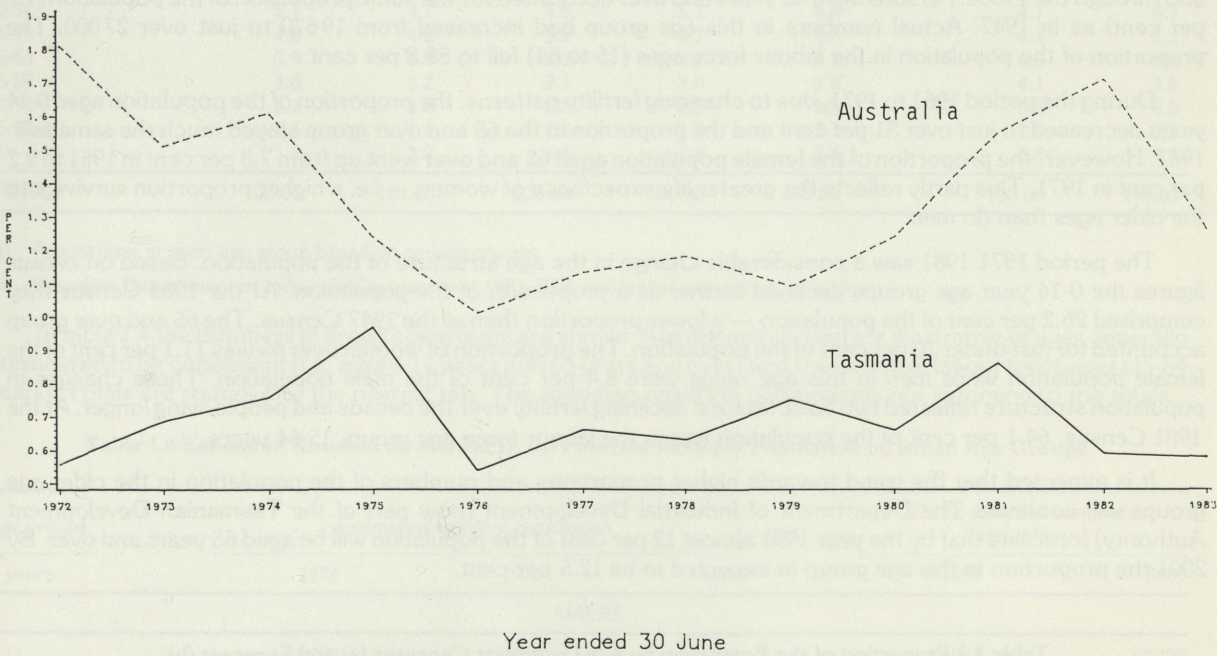


Table 1.2 shows the estimated resident population for Tasmania and Australia for the period 30 June 1971 to 30 June 1983.



Table 1.2 Estimated Resident Population at 30 June:  
Tasmania and Australia

At 30 June	Tasmania ( <sup>000</sup> )	Australia ( <sup>000</sup> )	Tasmanian population as proportion of the Australian population (%)
1971 .....	398.1	13 067.3	3.05
1972 .....	400.3	13 303.7	3.01
1973 .....	403.1	13 504.5	2.98
1974 .....	406.2	13 722.6	2.96
1975 .....	410.1	13 893.0	2.95
1976 .....	412.3	14 033.1	2.94
1977 .....	413.9	14 191.8	2.92
1978 .....	416.4	14 358.2	2.90
1979 .....	418.7	14 513.8	2.88
1980 .....	423.5	14 692.2	2.88
1981 .....	427.3	14 926.8	2.86
1982 .....	429.8	15 178.4	2.83

### Age-Sex Composition of the Population

Table 1.3 illustrates the age composition of Tasmania's population and changes that have occurred in the post-war period. At the 1947 Census, 28.5 per cent of the State's population was aged 0-14 years. The proportion of males in this age group was slightly higher than for females — 29 per cent as against 28 per cent for females. The labour force age groups, 15 to 64 years, comprised just under 64 per cent of the population while persons 65 years and over made up 7.7 per cent. Eight per cent of the female population was aged 65 and over while 7.4 per cent of males were in this age bracket.

By the 1961 Census the young (0-14 years) were 33.5 per cent of the population — an increase of five percentage points over the 1947 Census figure. This resulted from the high fertility rates experienced in the late 1940s and through the 1950s. Persons aged 65 years and over accounted for the same proportion of the population (7.7 per cent) as in 1947. Actual numbers in this age group had increased from 19670 to just over 27 000. The proportion of the population in the labour force ages (15 to 64) fell to 58.8 per cent.

During the period 1961 to 1971, due to changing fertility patterns, the proportion of the population aged 0-14 years decreased to just over 31 per cent and the proportion in the 65 and over group stayed much the same as in 1961. However, the proportion of the female population aged 65 and over went up from 7.8 per cent in 1961 to 9.2 per cent in 1971. This partly reflects the greater life expectancy of women — i.e. a higher proportion survive into the older ages than do men.

The period 1971-1981 saw a considerable change in the age structure of the population. Based on census figures the 0-14 year age groups declined further as a proportion of the population. At the 1981 Census they comprised 26.2 per cent of the population — a lower proportion than at the 1947 Census. The 65 and over group accounted for just under 10 per cent of the population. The proportion of women over 65 was 11.1 per cent of the female population while men in this age range were 8.4 per cent of the male population. These changes in population structure reflected two basic factors: declining fertility over the decade and people living longer. At the 1981 Census, 64.1 per cent of the population was in the labour force age group, 15-64 years.

It is expected that the trend towards higher proportions and numbers of the population in the older age groups will continue. The Department of Industrial Development (now part of the Tasmanian Development Authority) forecasts that by the year 1991 almost 12 per cent of the population will be aged 65 years and over. By 2001 the proportion in this age group is expected to be 12.5 per cent.

Table 1.3 Proportion of the Population by Age Groups at Censuses (a) and Forecast (b)  
(Per Cent)

Age Group years	Census (a)					D.I.D. forecast (b)	
	1947	1954	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
MALES							
0-4	11.4	12.0	12.0	10.2	8.2	7.8	6.9
5-9	9.4	10.9	11.1	10.5	9.0	8.5	7.4
10-14	8.1	8.6	10.6	10.9	9.6	7.7	7.7

continued on next page



Table 1.3 Proportion of the Population by Age Groups at Censuses (a) and Forecast (b)  
(Per Cent) — Continued

Age Group years	Census (a)					D.I.D. forecast (b)	
	1947	1954	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
<b>MALES</b>							
15-19	8.1	7.1	7.9	9.3	9.3	7.7	7.6
20-24	8.1	7.0	6.7	8.2	8.6	7.8	6.4
25-29	7.7	7.9	6.2	6.9	8.0	8.1	7.0
30-34	7.8	7.7	6.9	6.1	8.0	8.4	7.8
35-39	7.2	7.0	7.0	5.6	6.5	7.9	8.1
40-44	6.3	6.9	6.2	6.0	5.6	7.3	8.0
45-49	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.0	4.8	5.6	7.3
50-54	4.7	4.8	5.3	5.1	5.2	4.8	6.6
55-59	4.4	3.7	4.2	4.8	4.9	4.0	4.9
60-64	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.1
65-69	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.8	3.4	3.7	3.2
70-74	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.4	2.7	2.9
75-79	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.4	2.0	2.2
80+	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.6	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>							
0-4	11.0	12.0	11.8	9.9	7.8	7.2	6.3
5-9	9.1	11.0	11.0	10.1	8.6	7.8	6.7
10-14	8.0	8.6	10.5	10.5	9.1	7.3	7.0
15-19	8.0	7.1	7.9	9.1	9.0	7.3	6.9
20-24	8.3	6.7	6.5	8.1	8.6	7.3	6.0
25-29	8.1	7.3	5.9	6.6	8.0	7.8	6.5
30-34	7.8	7.7	6.4	5.9	7.7	8.1	7.1
35-39	6.9	7.0	6.8	5.4	6.3	7.6	7.7
40-44	5.8	6.5	6.2	5.6	5.3	7.1	7.8
45-49	5.4	5.3	5.9	5.8	4.6	5.6	7.1
50-54	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.1	4.8	4.7	6.7
55-59	4.6	4.0	3.9	4.7	4.8	4.1	5.2
60-64	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.3
65-59	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.8	4.1	3.6
70-74	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.9	3.5	3.5
75-79	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.8	3.2
80+	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.9	2.3	3.3	4.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

(a) Proportions in each age group based on census counts.

(b) Based on Department of Industrial Development 1981-2006 residential population forecasts.

In table 1.4 the numbers in broad age groups are shown. Age groups chosen are illustrative of ages generally considered to be dependent (i.e. ages 0-14 years and 65 years and over) and the potential labour force ages (15-64 years). Totals are rounded to the nearest ten. The rounding results in components not summing to the totals.

Table 1.4 Estimated Resident (a) and D.I.D. (b) Forecast Resident Population by Broad Age Groups

Age groups years	Estimated resident population			D.I.D. forecast resident population	
	1971	1976	1981	1991	2001
<b>MALES</b>					
0-14	62 780	59 600	56 390	54 960	52 430
15-64	123 420	131 060	137 810	150 830	161 960
65+	13 720	15 530	18 200	22 920	24 720
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>199 900</b>	<b>206 200</b>	<b>212 400</b>	<b>228 700</b>	<b>239 100</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>					
0-14	60 080	57 240	54 240	51 520	48 420
15-64	119 750	128 190	136 400	148 020	157 750
65+	18 330	20 690	24 270	31 650	35 540
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>198 200</b>	<b>206 100</b>	<b>214 900</b>	<b>231 200</b>	<b>241 700</b>



Table 1.4 Estimated Resident (a) and D.I.D. (b) Forecast Resident Population by Broad Age Groups

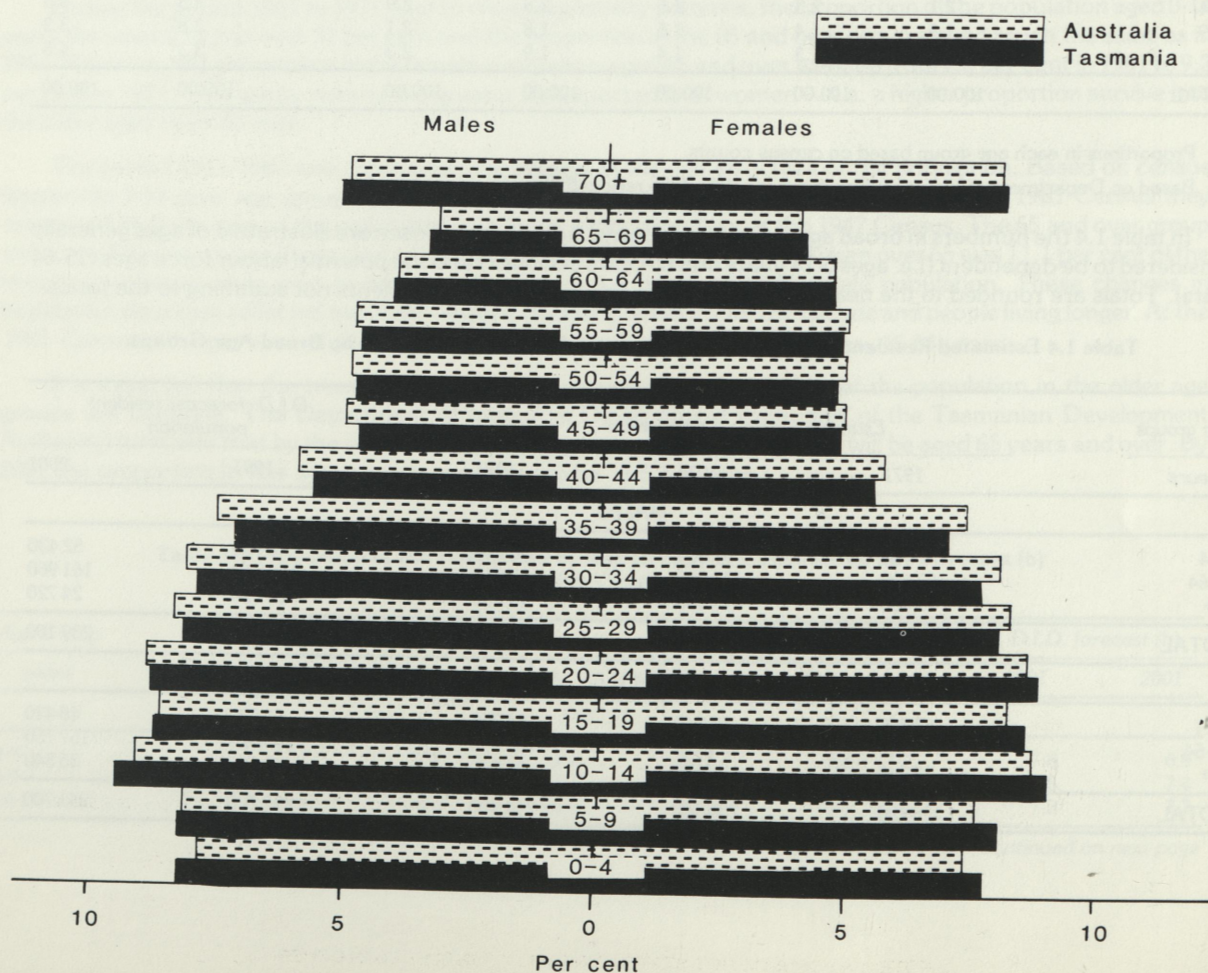
Age groups	Estimated resident population			D.I.D. forecast resident population	
	1971	1976	1981	1991	2001
years					
PERSONS					
0-14	122 850	116 840	110 640	106 470	100 850
15-65	243 170	259 260	274 210	298 850	319 690
65+	32 050	36 220	42 460	54 560	60 260
TOTAL	398 100	412 300	427 300	459 900	480 800

- (a) ABS resident population estimates are based on census counted population adjusted for visitors and census undercount.  
 (b) Department of Industrial Development forecast resident populations.

Table 1.4 illustrates the significant growth which has taken place in the aged population and is expected to continue. By the year 2001 the population aged 65 years and over is expected to be approximately 60 000 — an increase of 28 000 (or 88 per cent) over the 1971 number. (The number in the potential labour force will increase by almost 77 000 or 31 per cent over the same period.) It is worth noting that the number of very old (80 years and over) is expected to increase from 5 660 in 1971 to 15 600 by the year 2001. This represents almost a trebling of the very old population. It is forecast that the 80 years and over population will comprise 4 800 males and 10 800 females in 2001 — i.e. a masculinity ratio of 44.3 (in 1971 the masculinity ratio for the 80 and over population was 54.3 and in 1981 46.4).

The age-sex composition of the Tasmanian and Australian population is compared in Fig. 1.3. Marginal differences in the age distribution of males and females between Tasmania and Australia are evident. In age groups 0-4 through to 15-19, Tasmania has a slightly higher proportion than the Australian population. For age groups from 25-29 to 50-54 years, Tasmanian proportions are slightly less than the Australian proportions. The proportion of the population aged 65 and over in Tasmania is slightly greater than the Australian percentage.

Fig 1.3 AGE AND SEX COMPOSITION OF POPULATION 30 JUNE 1983





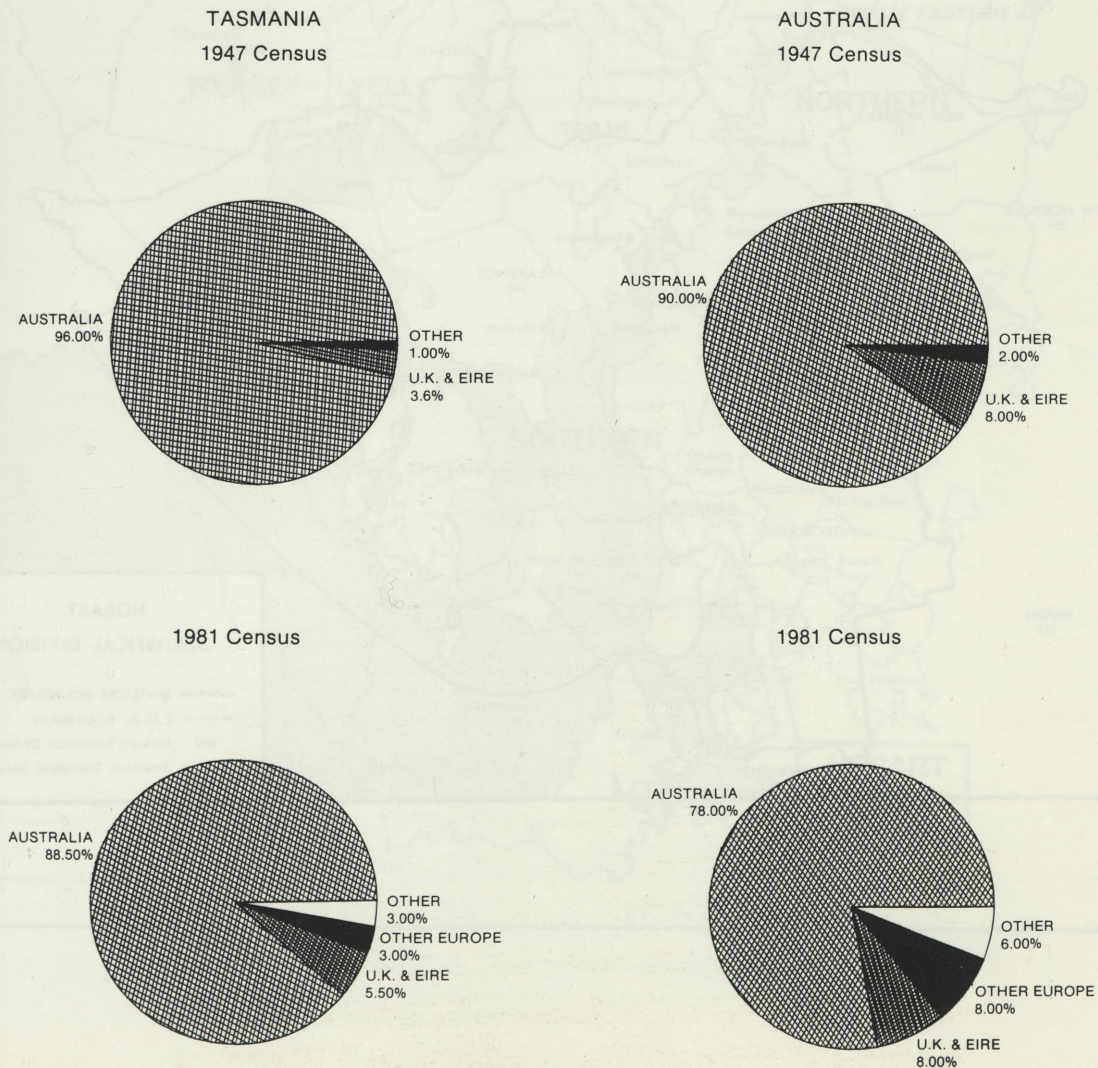
### Population by Birthplace

Birthplace gives an approximation of the ethnic composition of the population. The major migration flows from European countries such as Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia, Germany and the Netherlands have not had the same impact upon the make-up of Tasmania's population as on the Australian population. Tasmania, during the post-war period, has not attracted the same proportion of overseas immigrants as mainland states such as New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland.

At the 1947 Census, 96 per cent of Tasmania's population gave Australia as their birthplace. (For Australia the proportion with Australian birthplace was 90.2 per cent.) A further 2.8 per cent of the State's population was born in the United Kingdom and Eire. During the 1947-1954 intercensal period there was a substantial influx of immigrants from the United Kingdom and Eire and other European countries. The proportion of the population with Australia as place of birth fell to 91.5 per cent while the proportion with the U.K. and Eire as birthplace increased to 4.6 per cent and other European birthplace increased from less than half of one per cent to 3.1 per cent. The main sources of the other than U.K. and Eire settlers were the Netherlands, Germany, Poland and Italy. Since the 1954 Census, changes in the proportion of the population by birthplace have been marginal. At the 1981 Census almost 89 per cent of Tasmania's population was born in Australia, 5.6 per cent in the United Kingdom and Eire, 2.8 per cent in other European countries and 0.6 per cent in Asia. (When looking at the 1981 Census proportions by birthplace, it needs to be remembered that prior to the 1981 Census, persons with a not stated birthplace were included in Australia as birthplace: not stated in 1981 was around one per cent.)

Fig 1.4 shows the proportion of the Tasmanian and Australian population by birthplace at the 1947 and 1981 Censuses.

**Fig 1.4 PROPORTION OF TASMANIAN AND AUSTRALIAN POPULATION BY BIRTHPLACE**



NOTE: 1981 CENSUS NOT STATED BIRTHPLACE INCLUDED IN OTHER



### Geographic Distribution of the Population

Tasmania's population distribution by region has remained fairly stable over the post-war era. There has been a shift away from predominantly rural regions towards the main urban areas of Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, Burnie and other north-west coastal towns. This rural to urban drift is illustrated in broad terms in Table 1.5. The predominantly rural Southern Division's proportion of Tasmania's population has dropped from 9.8 per cent at the 1961 Census to just under seven per cent at 30 June 1983. As a whole, the Northern Division's share of the State population fell, over the 1947-1983 period. However, the Tamar Subdivision, dominated by Urban Launceston, has maintained its population share at around 24 per cent. The North-Western Subdivision, which includes the urban centres of Devonport, Burnie-Somerset, Ulverstone, Wynyard and several smaller towns, increased its population share from just over 20 per cent at the 1947 census to 22.4 per cent at 30 June 1983. The Western Subdivision, which is predominantly a mining area, has maintained a fairly stable share of the State's population at around three per cent.

Figs 1.5 and 1.6 illustrate Tasmania's statistical geography in terms of local government areas and statistical divisions and subdivisions.

Fig 1.5

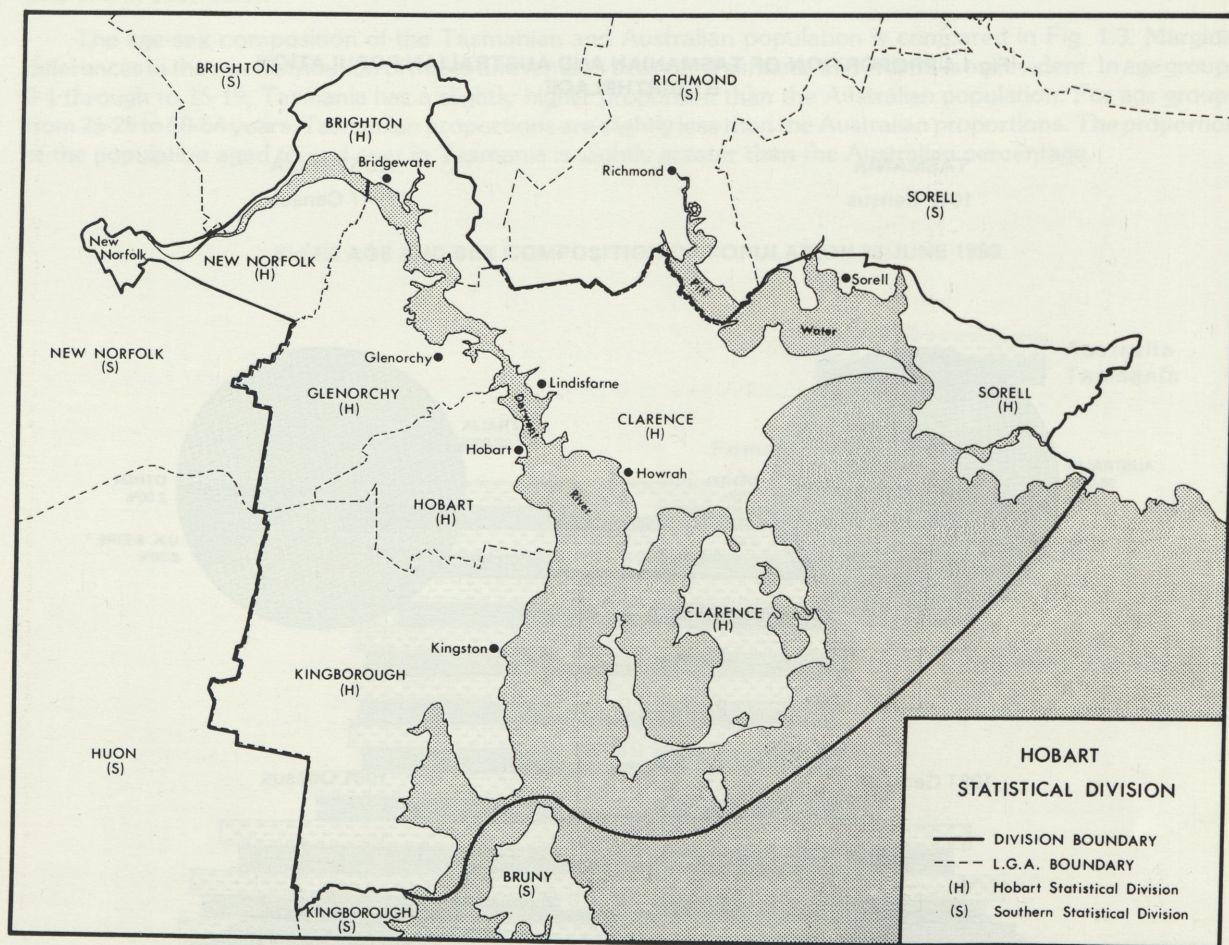




Fig 1.6

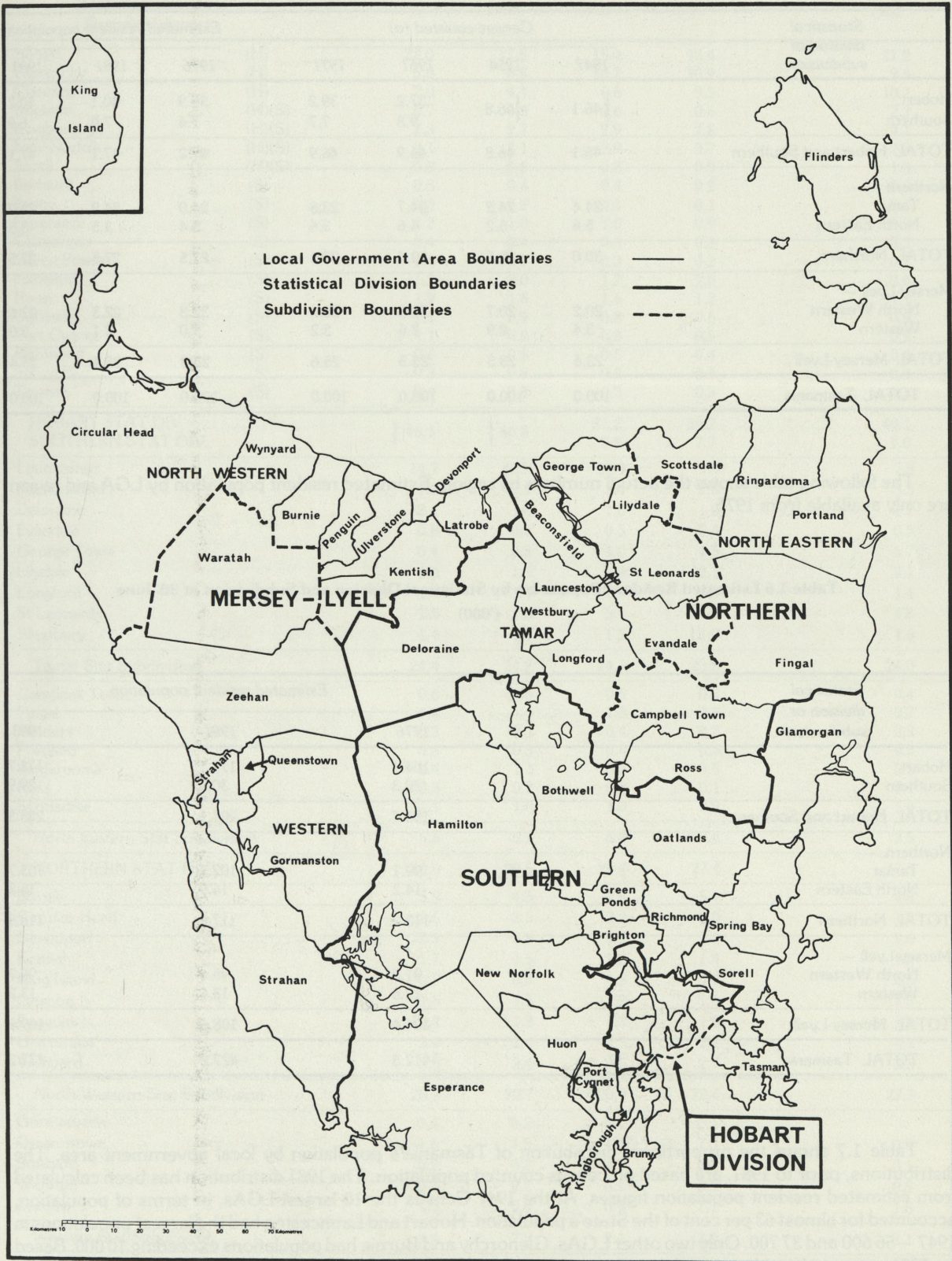




Table 1.5 Proportional Distribution of Tasmania's Population by Statistical Division and Subdivision at 30 June

(Per Cent)

Statistical division or subdivision	Census counted (a)				Estimated resident population		
	1947	1954	1961	1971	1976	1981	1983
Hobart	{46.1	{46.8	37.2	39.2	39.9	40.1	40.2
Southern			9.8	7.7	7.4	7.0	6.9
TOTAL Hobart and Southern	46.1	46.8	46.9	46.9	47.2	47.1	47.1
Northern —							
Tamar	24.4	24.2	24.7	23.8	24.0	24.0	24.0
North Eastern	5.6	5.2	4.6	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.5
TOTAL Northern	30.0	29.5	29.4	27.4	27.5	27.5	27.5
Mersey-Lyell —							
North Western	20.2	20.7	20.8	22.4	22.3	22.3	22.4
Western	3.4	2.9	2.6	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.0
TOTAL Mersey-Lyell	23.6	23.5	23.5	25.6	25.3	25.4	25.4
TOTAL Tasmania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The following table shows the actual numbers by region. Estimated resident population by LGA and region are only available from 1976.

Table 1.6 Estimated Resident Population by Statistical Division and Subdivision at 30 June ('000)

Statistical division or subdivision	Estimated resident population		
	1976	1981	1983
Hobart	164.4	171.1	173.7
Southern	30.3	30.0	29.9
TOTAL Hobart and Southern	194.7	201.1	203.5
Northern —			
Tamar	99.1	102.7	103.7
North Eastern	14.2	14.9	15.2
TOTAL Northern	113.2	117.6	118.8
Mersey-Lyell —			
North Western	91.8	95.4	96.7
Western	12.6	13.1	13.2
TOTAL Mersey-Lyell	104.4	108.6	109.9
TOTAL Tasmania	412.3	427.2	432.2

Table 1.7 shows the proportional distribution of Tasmania's population by local government area. The distributions, prior to 1981, are based on census counted population. The 1981 distribution has been calculated from estimated resident population figures. At the 1947 Census the 10 largest LGAs, in terms of population, accounted for almost 63 per cent of the State's population. Hobart and Launceston had the largest populations in 1947 — 56 600 and 37 700. Only two other LGAs, Glenorchy and Burnie had populations exceeding 10 000. Based on 1981 estimated resident population figures the 10 largest LGAs contained nearly 65 per cent of the State's population. Hobart, with an estimated resident population of 47 890 was the largest followed by Clarence (45 550), Glenorchy (41 860), Launceston (31 980), Devonport (23 930), St Leonards (20 710) and Burnie (20 400).



Table 1.7 Proportional Distribution of Population by Local Government Area at 30 June  
(Per Cent)

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division Statistical district		Census				Estimated resident population
		1947	1954	1961	1971	1981
Hobart	(H)	22.0	17.8	15.4	13.4	11.2
Glenorchy	(H)	5.6	8.4	10.2	10.9	9.8
Clarence	(H)	2.0	4.1	6.6	9.5	10.7
Brighton	(H)(S)	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	2.3
Kingborough	(H)(S)	2.3	2.7	2.9	2.8	4.1
New Norfolk	(H)(S)	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.3
Sorell	(H)(S)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.3
Bothwell	(S)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2
Bruny	(S)	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Esperance	(S)	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.7
Glamorgan	(S)	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Green Ponds	(S)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Hamilton	(S)	1.2	2.0	1.2	1.0	0.6
Huon	(S)	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.1
Oatlands	(S)	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5
Port Cygnet	(S)	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5
Richmond	(S)	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Spring Bay	(S)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Tasman	(S)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
HOBART STAT DIV		{ 46.1	{ 46.8	37.2	39.2	40.1
SOUTHERN STAT DIV				9.8	7.7	7.0
Launceston		14.7	12.2	10.9	9.0	7.5
Beaconsfield		1.7	2.5	2.4	2.8	3.3
Deloraine		2.1	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.2
Evandale		0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
George Town		0.4	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7
Lilydale		1.0	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.1
Longford		1.4	1.4	1.9	1.3	1.4
St Leonards		1.3	2.3	3.1	4.1	4.8
Westbury		1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.6
Tamar Stat Subdivision		24.4	24.2	24.7	23.8	24.0
Campbell Town		0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4
Fingal		1.4	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.7
Flinders		0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3
Portland		0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Ringarooma		1.4	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.5
Ross		0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Scottsdale		1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		5.6	5.2	4.6	3.6	3.5
NORTHERN STAT DIV		30.0	29.5	29.4	27.4	27.5
Burnie		3.9	4.5	4.8	5.1	4.8
Circular Head		2.6	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.9
Devonport		3.5	3.8	4.1	5.1	5.6
Kentish		1.7	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.0
King Island		0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6
Latrobe		1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3
Penguin		1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2
Ulverstone		2.6	2.6	2.7	2.8	3.1
Wynyard		2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.8
North Western Stat Subdivision		20.2	20.7	20.8	22.4	22.3
Gormanston		0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	—
Queenstown		1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.9
Strahan		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Waratah		0.3	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.5
Zeehan		1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.6
Western Stat Subdivision		3.4	2.9	2.6	3.2	3.1
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIVISION		23.6	23.5	23.5	25.6	25.5
TASMANIA		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0



### Urban-Rural Population

The following table lists the State's principal urban centres and their census counted population.

**Table 1.8 Principal Tasmanian Urban Centres (a) Census Counted Population  
30 June 1971 and 1981  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

Urban centre	Census 30 June		Local government area in which urban centre located or comprising urban centre
	1971	1981	
Hobart .....	129.9	128.6	Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart
Launceston .....	62.2	64.6	Beaconsfield, Evandale, Launceston, Lilydale, St Leonards, Westbury
Devonport .....	18.2	21.4	Devonport
Burnie-Somerset .....	20.1	20.4	Burnie, Wynyard
Ulverstone .....	8.0	9.4	Ulverstone
Kingston .....	3.7	8.6	Kingborough
Bridgewater .....	—	6.9	Brighton
New Norfolk .....	6.8	6.2	New Norfolk
George Town .....	4.8	5.6	George Town
Wynyard .....	4.0	4.6	Wynyard
Queenstown .....	5.0	3.7	Queenstown
Smithton .....	3.2	3.4	Circular Head

(a) In brief, an urban centre is one with a population of 1 000 or more and population density of 200 or more per square kilometre.

At the 1971 Census, Urban Hobart, the urban areas stretching on the western shore of the Derwent from Granton in the north to Tarooma and on the eastern shore from Risdon Vale to Rokeby, contained 33 per cent of the State's population. Dormitory suburbs of Kingston-Blackmans Bay, Sorell, Midway Point and Lauderdale, which are outside the boundaries, contained a further two per cent of Tasmania's population. By the 1981 Census, Urban Hobart's share of State population had fallen to about 31 per cent. However, surrounding suburbs which are just beyond the urban boundaries had increased their share of State population to five per cent. Over the period the major development was the Housing Department constructed suburb of Bridgewater-Gagebrook (outside the boundary of Urban Hobart). At the 1981 Census this urban centre contained 1.6 per cent of Tasmania's population.

In the north, Urban Launceston accounted for 16 per cent of the State population at the 1971 Census and 15 per cent at the 1981 Census. The slight decline is again accounted for by movement of population into smaller urban centres just beyond the Urban Launceston boundary.

On the north-west coast the two major urban centres of Burnie-Somerset and Devonport contained about 10 per cent of the State's population at both the 1971 and 1981 Censuses.

Over the post-war period Hobart LGA experienced a substantial drop in population as people moved out into the surrounding LGAs — particularly Glenorchy and then Clarence. At 30 June 1981 Hobart's estimated resident population was 47 890. The LGAs of Clarence and Glenorchy, both part of Urban Hobart, had populations of 45 550 and 41 860. In the north, Launceston also experienced a fall in population. Its estimated population at 30 June 1981 was 31 980. Two adjacent municipalities, St Leonards and Beaconsfield had populations of 20 710 and 14 150 respectively. Both form significant parts of Urban Launceston. Along the north-west coast Devonport had a population of 23 930 and Burnie 20 400, most of the population being contained in their urban centres.

In general, over the period 1947-1981, the only LGAs to significantly increase their share of the State population have been LGAs containing major urban suburbs of Hobart and Launceston. The predominantly rural and mining LGAs' shares of the state population have either declined or stagnated at around the 1947 level. In terms of share of state population Hobart and Launceston LGAs have shown the greatest decreases. This reflects the fact that the growth of the population took place in urban suburbs in adjoining LGAs. The following table summarises the most significant gains and losses in terms of share of the State's population.

**Table 1.9 Share of State Population, Census 1947, and Estimated Resident Population 1981**

LGA	Share of State population (per cent)		Comment
	1947	1981	
Hobart .....	22.0	11.2	{ Urban growth over the period has occurred in adjoining LGAs
Launceston .....	14.7	7.5	



**Table 1.9 Share of State Population, Census 1947, and Estimated Resident Population 1981**  
— Continued

LGA	Share of State population (per cent)		Comment
	1947	1981	
Clarence .....	2.0	10.7	{ Contains major suburbs forming part of Urban Hobart
Glenorchy .....	5.6	9.8	
St Leonards .....	1.3	4.8	Contains suburbs forming part of Urban Launceston
Devonport .....	3.5	5.6	Contains urban centre of Devonport
Kingborough .....	2.3	4.1	Contains Hobart dormitory suburbs
Brighton .....	0.7	2.3	Increase due to Housing Department development.
Beaconsfield .....	1.7	3.3	Contains suburbs forming part of urban Launceston

Table 10 shows the urban-rural split of Tasmania's population at the 1971 and 1981 Censuses by statistical division and subdivision.

**Table 1.10 Population Classified as Urban and Rural by Statistical Division and Subdivision:**  
Censuses 30 June 1971 and 1981 (a)  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Statistical division or subdivision	Census 1971			Census 1981		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Hobart	143.8	9.4	153.2	154.9	13.4	168.4
Southern	—	30.0	30.0	2.4	27.0	29.4
Northern —						
Tamar	72.6	20.2	92.8	77.5	22.7	100.2
North Eastern	1.8	12.4	14.2	3.9	10.7	14.6
Total Northern	74.4	32.6	107.0	81.4	33.3	114.7
Mersey-Lyell —						
North Western	58.3	29.2	87.4	65.0	27.9	92.9
Western	10.0	2.3	12.4	11.2	1.9	13.1
Total Mersey-Lyell	68.3	31.5	99.8	76.2	29.8	106.0
TASMANIA	286.5	103.5 (b)	390.4	314.9	103.6 (b)	419.0

(a) Census counted population.

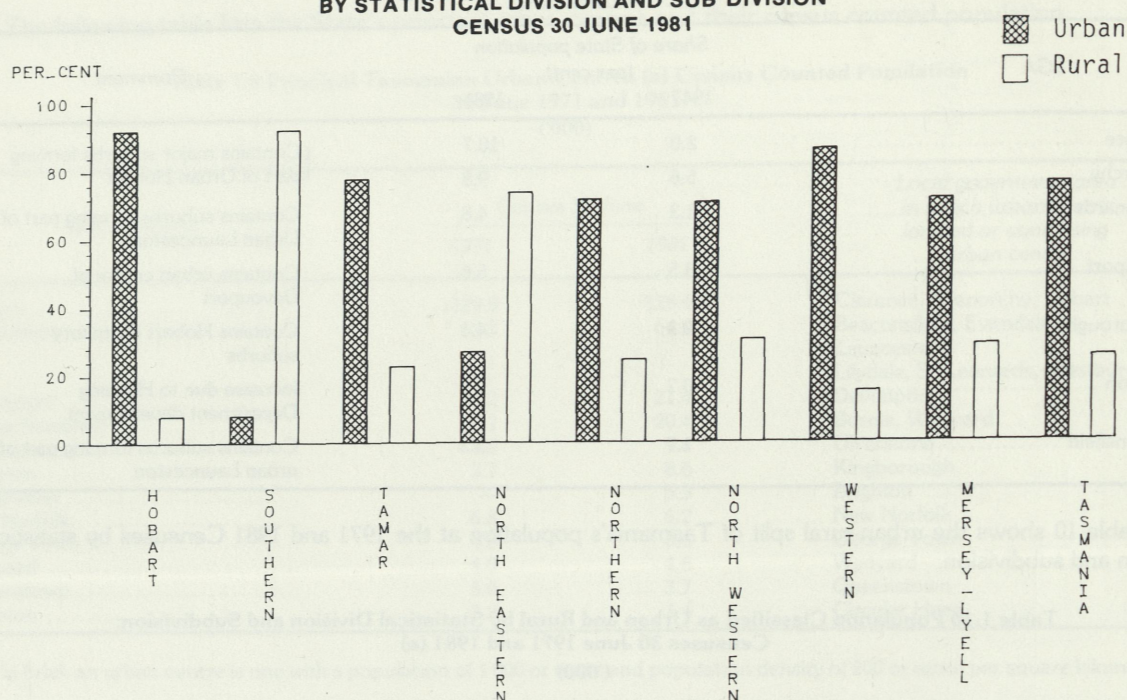
(b) Includes migratory.

Over the period 1971-1981 the proportion of Tasmania's population classified as urban showed little change — it moved from 73.4 per cent in 1971 to 75.2 per cent in 1981. At the 1981 Census, Urban Hobart's proportion of the State Urban population was 40.1 per cent, Urban Launceston, 20.5 per cent, Urban Devonport 6.8 per cent and Urban Burnie-Somerset 6.5 per cent.

Fig 1.7 shows the proportions of the population classified as urban and rural at the 1981 Census by statistical division and subdivision.



**Fig 1.7 PROPORTION OF POPULATION CLASSIFIED AS URBAN AND RURAL  
BY STATISTICAL DIVISION AND SUB DIVISION  
CENSUS 30 JUNE 1981**



#### Estimated Resident Population by Age and Sex in Local Government Areas

Following the 1981 Census LGA resident population estimates by age and sex were compiled. These are presented in Table 1.11 in terms of broad age groups. The age groups 0-14 and 65 and over comprise the dependent population. The potential labour force group has been split into three age group components:

- 15-19 — these are persons normally entering their final years of schooling, tertiary education, various job training schemes or the labour force;
- 20-44 — in some literature this age group is regarded as the prime working age. Also the majority of births occur to women in this broad age category;
- 45-64 — within this age group, particularly for males aged 55 years plus, a trend towards lower labour force participation has become evident over recent years.

In Table 1.11 all figures except the State total all ages, have been rounded to the nearest ten. The State total all ages has been rounded to the nearest hundred. The rounding results in components not always summing to the totals.

**Table 1.11 Estimated Resident Population 30 June 1981  
Classified by Age and Sex**

		MALES					
Local government area	Statistical subdivision	Age Group					
		0-14		15-19			
Hobart	(H)	4 150	2 060	9 250	4 800	2 760	23 020
Glenorchy	(H)	4 900	2 180	7 300	4 500	1 840	20 710
Clarence	(H)	6 690	2 230	8 260	4 030	1 370	22 580
Brighton	(H)(S)	1 990	350	1 850	420	150	4 760
Kingborough	(H)(S)	2 570	730	3 390	1 420	640	8 750
New Norfolk	(H)(S)	1 340	470	1 850	980	370	5 000
Sorell	(H)(S)	710	200	1 060	520	290	2 780

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Table 1.11 Estimated Resident Population 30 June 1981  
Classified by Age and Sex — Continued

MALES (Continued)							
Local government area		Age Group					
Statistical subdivision							
Statistical division							
Statistical district		0-14	15-19	20-44	45-64	65 & over	- Total
Bothwell	(S)	100	30	130	80	50	390
Bruny	(S)	40	20	50	50	40	200
Esperance	(S)	500	100	570	330	160	1 660
Glamorgan	(S)	150	50	270	180	100	760
Green Ponds	(S)	140	40	190	100	50	510
Hamilton	(S)	400	140	500	250	100	1 380
Huon	(S)	710	210	890	460	220	2 480
Oatlands	(S)	270	100	380	220	120	1 080
Port Cygnet	(S)	340	90	420	210	110	1 180
Richmond	(S)	250	90	350	190	90	960
Spring Bay	(S)	280	70	360	180	90	980
Tasman	(S)	110	50	190	140	80	570
HOBART STAT DIV		21 410	7 910	31 690	16 030	7 110	84 160
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		4 220	1 280	5 540	3 030	1 520	15 590
Launceston		3 200	1 400	5 440	3 090	2 010	15 130
Beaconsfield		1 920	630	2 490	1 480	590	7 110
Deloraine		700	210	840	490	270	2 510
Evandale		290	100	370	180	80	1 010
George Town		1 200	390	1 410	590	140	3 730
Lilydale		1 310	490	1 660	870	290	4 620
Longford		780	250	1 050	560	290	2 930
St Leonards		3 110	980	3 630	1 730	650	10 100
Westbury		910	270	1 240	600	270	3 280
Tamar Stat Subdivision		13 390	4 720	18 110	9 580	4 590	50 420
Campbell Town		180	70	270	150	80	740
Fingal		420	120	570	280	160	1 540
Flinders		160	40	230	90	50	560
Portland		250	80	360	250	140	1 080
Ringarooma		340	100	400	260	100	1 210
Ross		70	20	90	40	30	260
Scottsdale		560	190	800	440	180	2 180
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		2 000	620	2 720	1 510	730	7 570
NORTHERN STAT DIV		15 390	5 340	20 840	11 100	5 330	57 990
Burnie		2 830	1 040	3 570	1 870	740	10 060
Circular Head		1 180	390	1 480	730	290	4 080
Devonport		3 220	1 070	4 140	2 120	1 040	11 590
Kentish		660	190	740	430	180	2 210
King Island		410	110	650	250	70	1 490
Latrobe		760	280	980	560	280	2 850
Penguin		740	250	960	450	210	2 620
Ulverstone		1 810	560	2 140	1 150	710	6 380
Wynyard		1 820	620	2 080	1 070	490	6 040
North Western Stat Subdivision		13 440	4 520	16 730	8 630	4 020	47 320
Gormanston		20	10	20	10	10	70
Queenstown		530	190	760	360	100	1 930
Strahan		50	20	80	50	20	220
Waratah		320	80	670	160	20	1 240
Zeehan		1 010	280	2 020	650	40	3 990
Western Stat Subdivision		1 920	580	3 540	1 220	200	7 450
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV		15 360	5 100	20 270	9 850	4 220	54 770
TASMANIA		56 370	19 630	78 370	40 010	18 190	212 570

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Table 1.11 Estimated Resident Population 30 June 1981  
Classified by Age and Sex — Continued

FEMALES							
Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division Statistical district		Age Group					Total
		0-14	15-19	20-44	45-64	65 & over	
Hobart	(H)	4 120	2 350	8 870	5 130	4 410	24 870
Glenorchy	(H)	4 600	2 090	7 360	4 690	2 410	21 150
Clarence	(H)	6 340	2 090	8 480	4 070	1 990	22 970
Brighton	(H)(S)	1 930	410	2 010	390	140	4 880
Kingborough	(H)(S)	2 430	670	3 430	1 470	760	8 760
New Norfolk	(H)(S)	1 260	450	1 730	910	460	4 800
Sorell	(H)(S)	700	180	990	500	270	2 640
Bothwell	(S)	90	20	120	60	50	340
Bruny	(S)	40	10	60	50	30	190
Esperance	(S)	420	120	520	300	150	1 510
Glamorgan	(S)	150	40	240	190	100	730
Green Ponds	(S)	140	50	180	80	50	490
Hamilton	(S)	360	80	450	190	90	1 190
Huon	(S)	660	220	860	390	250	2 380
Oatlands	(S)	270	70	330	200	120	990
Port Cygnet	(S)	310	90	390	210	120	1 110
Richmond	(S)	190	70	320	190	100	870
Spring Bay	(S)	270	70	330	180	90	930
Tasman	(S)	120	40	170	120	60	510
HOBART STAT DIV		20 500	7 970	31 700	16 610	10 200	86 950
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		3 880	1 120	5 140	2 740	1 460	14 360
Launceston		3 040	1 590	5 420	3 500	3 290	16 850
Beaconsfield		1 790	630	2 470	1 450	700	7 040
Deloraine		650	220	820	480	340	2 510
Evandale		270	60	360	150	110	950
George Town		1 200	350	1 340	500	190	3 580
Lilydale		1 170	470	1 660	840	320	4 450
Longford		740	240	1 000	580	320	2 880
St Leonards		2 950	990	3 870	1 810	1 010	10 610
Westbury		910	260	1 230	590	410	3 390
Tamar Stat Subdivision		12 720	4 790	18 170	9 910	6 680	52 260
Campbell Town		230	60	260	150	100	800
Fingal		390	90	490	250	170	1 380
Flinders		160	30	210	80	40	530
Portland		230	70	350	260	140	1 050
Ringarooma		310	90	370	230	130	1 120
Ross		80	20	90	40	40	270
Scottsdale		560	180	750	420	250	2 170
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		1 980	530	2 510	1 430	870	7 320
NORTHERN STAT DIV		14 700	5 320	20 680	11 330	7 550	59 580
Burnie		2 810	1 050	3 620	1 900	970	10 340
Circular Head		1 130	360	1 370	670	300	3 830
Devonport		3 270	1 090	4 330	2 280	1 380	12 340
Kentish		620	220	720	370	200	2 140
King Island		390	80	490	200	80	1 230
Latrobe		740	250	950	550	290	2 780
Penguin		780	250	940	450	230	2 650
Ulverstone		1 720	650	2 170	1 290	910	6 730
Wynyard		1 750	570	2 120	1 060	550	6 080
North Western Stat Subdivision		13 200	4 510	16 700	8 770	4 920	48 120
Gormanston		10	10	20	10	—	60
Queenstown		530	180	670	310	130	1 810
Strahan		60	20	70	50	30	220
Waratah		330	60	430	70	20	910
Zeehan		1 020	220	170	240	30	2 680
Western Stat Subdivision		1 950	490	2 350	680	200	5 680

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**Table 1.11 Estimated Resident Population 30 June 1981**  
**Classified by Age and Sex — Continued**

FEMALES						
Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division Statistical district	Age Group					
	0-14	15-19	20-44	45-64	65 & over	Total
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	15 140	5 010	19 040	9 450	5 120	53 800
TASMANIA	54 210	19 420	76 570	40 130	24 340	214 700

In Table 1.12 local government areas are ranked reading left to right, according to the size of their population in three age categories: 0-14, 15-19 and 65 years and over. These age groups have been selected as generally they are dependent age groups requiring services such as schooling, tertiary and further education and various forms of social welfare assistance and health care.

In the 0-14 age group Clarence had the largest population at 30 June 1981 of 13 030 persons. Then followed Glenorchy (9 500), Hobart (8 270), Devonport (6 490), Launceston (6 230), St Leonards (6 060) and Burnie (5 640). Overall the age group 0-14 years comprised 25.9 per cent of the State's estimated resident population at 30 June 1981.

The 15-19 year age group accounted for 9.1 per cent of Tasmania's population at 30 June 1981. Clarence had the highest population in this age group (4 320 persons). Hobart and Glenorchy both had 15-19 year old populations of over 4 000.

Two LGAs, Hobart and Launceston, account for almost 30 per cent of the State's population aged 65 and over. Factors contributing to this include, the location of a number of establishments caring for the aged within these LGAs, and development of adjacent LGAs as residential suburban areas into which the younger generations have moved. Hobart's actual population aged 65 years and over at 30 June 1981 was 7 170 persons, and Launceston's 5 310. Other LGAs with large populations aged 65 years and over included Glenorchy (4 250), Clarence (3 370), Devonport (2 410), Burnie (1 710) and St Leonards (1 640).

**Table 1.12 Selected Local Government Areas Ranked According to Size and Population**  
**in Age Groups 0-14, 15-19 and 65 Years and Over**

(Note: ranking is from smallest to largest reading left to right.)

Number of Persons	Local Government Area					
	(Age group as proportion of total population of LGA is shown in brackets after the LGA name.)					
0-14 Years						
1 000-1 999	Queenstown	(28.1)	Scottsdale	(25.8)	Kentish	(29.6)
	Deloraine	(26.9)	Huon	(28.2)	Sorell	(26.1)
	Latrobe	(26.5)	Penguin	(28.8)	Longford	(26.2)
	Westbury	(27.2)				
2 000-2 999	Zeehan	(30.4)	Circular Head	(29.2)	George Town	(32.8)
	Lilydale	(27.3)	New Norfolk	(28.5)		
3 000-3 999	Ulverstone	(26.9)	Wynyard	(29.2)	Beaconsfield	(26.2)
	Brighton	(40.6)				
4 000-4 999	Kingborough	(28.5)				
5 000-7 999	Burnie	(27.6)	St Leonards	(29.3)	Launceston	(19.5)
	Devonport	(27.1)				
8 000-9 999	Hobart	(17.3)	Glenorchy	(22.7)		
10 000 and over	Clarence	(28.6)				
15-19 Years						
400-999	Kentish	(9.5)	Huon	(8.7)	Deloraine	(8.5)
	Longford	(8.3)	Zeehan	(7.5)	Penguin	(9.5)

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**Table 1.12 Selected Local Government Areas Ranked According to Size and Population in Age Groups 0-14, 15-19 and 65 Years and Over — Continued**

(Note: ranking is from smallest to largest reading left to right.)

Number of Persons	Local Government authority (Age group as proportion of total population of LGA is shown in brackets after the LGA name.)					
	15-19 Years — Continued					
	Westbury	(7.8)	Latrobe	(9.4)	George Town	(10.1)
	Circular Head	(9.5)	Brighton	(7.9)	New Norfolk	(9.3)
	Lilydale	(10.5)				
1 000-1 999	Wynyard	(9.8)	Ulverstone	(9.3)	Beaconsfield	(8.9)
	Kingborough	(7.9)	St Leonards	(9.5)		
2 000-2 999	Burnie	(10.2)	Devonport	(9.0)	Launceston	(9.4)
3 000 and over	Glenorchy	(10.2)	Hobart	(9.2)	Clarence	(9.5)
	65 Years and Over					
500-999	Scottsdale	(10.0)	Penguin	(8.4)	Huon	(9.6)
	Sorell	(10.3)	Latrobe	(10.2)	Circular Head	(7.5)
	Deloraine	(12.1)	Lilydale	(6.7)	Longford	(10.6)
	Westbury	(10.1)	New Norfolk	(8.5)		
1 000-1 999	Wynyard	(8.6)	Beaconsfield	(9.2)	Kingborough	(8.0)
	Ulverstone	(12.4)	St Leonards	(7.9)	Burnie	(8.4)
2 000-2 999	Devonport	(10.1)				
3 000-3 999	Clarence	(7.4)				
4 000-4 999	Glenorchy	(10.1)				
5 000 and over	Launceston	(16.6)	Hobart	(15.0)		

#### DATA REFERENCES

##### ABS Catalogue No.

##### TITLE

1301.6	Tasmanian Year Book (T)
2201.6	Census of Population and Housing 1981: Characteristics of Persons in Hobart and Suburbs (T)
2202.6	Census of Population and Housing 1981: Characteristics of Persons in Launceston and Suburbs (T)
2401.6	Census of Population and Housing 1981: Characteristics of the Population and Dwellings in Local Government Areas (T)
3101.0	Australian Demographic Statistics, Quarterly (C/O)
3101.6	Demography (T) — final issue 1982
3202.6	Population and Vital Statistics, Quarterly (T)
3203.6	Age Distribution of the Estimated Resident Population of Local Government Areas, Tasmania (T)
1984/2	Aged Persons in Tasmania (T) — Occasional Paper

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.



## Chapter 2

### FAMILIES

#### Introduction

Family information is relevant as background information to the basic structure of society. It is also relevant to assessment of the general well-being of society and of the individuals which make up society.

The notion of a family implies some kind of permanent or long-term relationship between persons. The relationship may be between adults only or adults and children. Often the concept implies marriage (legal or defacto) which involves long-term commitment between the parties. However, the single parent and children situation has become an increasingly important family situation over the past decade or so. In other cases family may imply existence of some kind of social unit set up to care for children or handicapped persons; co-habitation by persons living together in a household as a group; or some more generally described personal relationship.

#### Marital Status of the Population

Census marital status need not reflect legal marital status. The Census statistics reflect the respondents' own perceptions of their situation. For example a person in a defacto relationship may record his/her status as married and would be counted as such in the census statistics. Table 2.1 shows the marital status of the Tasmanian and Australian population aged 15 years and over at the 1981 Census.

Table 2.1 Marital Status of the Population : Tasmania and Australia Census 30 June 1981  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Age Group (years)	Never married	Now married	Separated but not divorced	Divorced	Widowed	Total
TASMANIA : MALES						
15-19	19.2	0.2	—	—	—	19.4
20-24	12.9	4.8	0.2	0.1	—	18.0
25-29	4.8	10.8	0.6	0.5	—	16.7
30-39	3.1	24.4	1.0	1.4	0.1	30.1
40-49	1.6	18.2	0.7	1.1	0.2	21.8
50-59	1.6	17.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	20.9
60-64	0.6	6.7	0.2	0.3	0.4	8.3
65 and over	1.4	12.6	0.3	0.5	2.8	17.5
TOTAL	45.1	95.1	3.5	4.9	4.0	152.6
TASMANIA : FEMALES						
15-19	18.0	0.9	—	—	—	19.0
20-24	8.8	8.5	0.5	0.3	—	18.1
25-29	2.4	12.7	0.8	0.8	0.1	16.8
30-39	1.6	24.4	1.2	1.9	0.3	29.4
40-49	0.8	17.4	0.7	1.3	0.8	20.9
50-59	0.8	15.8	0.5	0.9	2.3	20.2
60-64	0.5	5.9	0.2	0.3	2.0	8.9
65 and over	2.1	8.8	0.3	0.5	11.8	23.4
TOTAL	34.9	94.4	4.1	6.0	17.3	156.7

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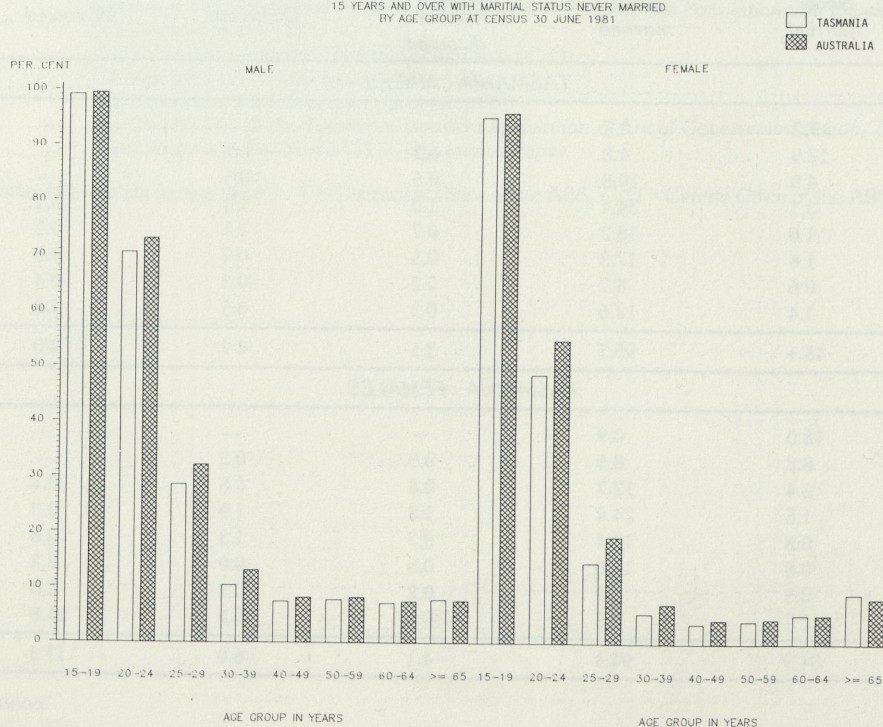


**Table 2.1 Marital Status of the Population : Tasmania and Australia Census 30 June 1981 — Continued**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Age Group (years)	Never married	Now married	Separated but not divorced	Divorced	Widowed	Total
<b>AUSTRALIA : MALES</b>						
15-19	639.8	3.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	643.8
20-24	486.9	133.5	6.3	2.5	0.2	629.4
25-29	205.9	349.2	18.7	17.2	0.6	591.6
30-39	142.9	863.0	37.2	52.9	2.4	1098.3
40-49	64.4	656.7	24.7	41.0	5.8	792.6
50-59	60.9	614.2	20.6	36.6	18.2	750.5
60-64	21.3	232.9	7.1	11.6	14.7	287.6
65 and over	45.0	433.1	12.8	16.0	94.2	601.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 667.1</b>	<b>3 286.1</b>	<b>127.6</b>	<b>177.7</b>	<b>136.4</b>	<b>5 394.9</b>
<b>AUSTRALIA : FEMALES</b>						
15-19	589.0	24.9	1.0	0.2	0.1	615.3
20-24	336.8	257.3	15.3	8.1	0.9	618.4
25-29	113.1	424.3	25.1	27.7	2.3	592.5
30-39	76.0	873.6	42.9	68.8	9.9	1071.1
40-49	32.1	620.5	26.2	49.5	24.9	753.2
50-59	32.3	561.0	20.6	39.7	80.0	733.5
60-64	16.3	204.6	7.5	13.0	70.7	312.1
65 and over	67.6	307.1	11.3	18.8	423.6	828.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 263.2</b>	<b>3 273.1</b>	<b>150.0</b>	<b>225.8</b>	<b>612.4</b>	<b>5 524.5</b>

For age groups 20-24 through 30-39 years the proportions of Tasmanian males and females reporting a never married marital status at the 1981 Census were substantially lower than the overall Australian proportions. (This is illustrated in Fig. 2.1.) This indicates a tendency towards younger age at marriage for the Tasmanian population than for Australia as a whole. Conversely the proportion of Tasmanian men and women in these age groups with a marital status now married was higher. For age groups 40-49 onwards Tasmanian and Australian proportions with marital status never married or now married are similar. Likewise Tasmanian and Australian proportions for males and females reporting marital status 'separated not divorced', 'divorced' or 'widowed' are similar for the various age groups.

FIG 2.1 PROPORTION OF TASMANIAN AND AUSTRALIAN MALES AND FEMALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH MARITAL STATUS NEVER MARRIED BY AGE GROUP AT CENSUS 30 JUNE 1981





There is a significant sex differential for males and females reporting marital status widowed in the higher age groups. About two to three per cent of males aged 50-59 are widowers whereas approximately 11 per cent of women in this age bracket are widows. As age increases so does the differential — for the age group 60-64 years approximately five per cent of males were widowed and 23 per cent of females and for males 65 and over 16 per cent were widowed and just over 50 per cent of females.

At the 1981 Census 90 per cent of now married women reported that they had only been married once. The same information is not available for males.

### Family Formation and Dissolution

Table 2.2 shows the number of marriages and divorces and crude marriage and divorce rates for Tasmania from 1961 to 1982.

Table 2.2 Registered Marriages and Divorces 1961 to 1982

Year	Marriages		Divorces	
	Number	Rate per 1 000 of mean population (a)	Number	Rate per 1 000 of mean population (a)
1961	2 677	7.6	286	0.8
1962	2 485	7.0	249	0.7
1963	2 579	7.2	261	0.7
1964	2 869	7.9	230	0.6
1965	2 888	7.9	280	0.8
1966	2 946	7.9	319	0.9
1967	3 213	8.6	248	0.7
1968	3 426	9.0	303	0.8
1969	3 532	9.2	331	0.9
1970	3 535	9.1	426	1.1
1971	3 578	9.2	432	1.1
1972	3 426	8.6	446	1.1
1973	3 395	8.4	444	1.1
1974	3 567	8.8	536	1.3
1975	3 242	7.9	591	1.4
1976	3 477	8.4	(b) 1 761	(b) 4.3
1977	3 166	7.6	1 134	2.7
1978	3 148	7.5	1 132	2.7
1979	3 254	7.7	1 167	2.8
1980	3 433	8.1	1 285	3.0
1981	3 515	8.2	1 139	2.7
1982	3 576	8.3	1 391	3.2

(a) Rates for 1961 to 1970 inclusive have been calculated using estimated populations based on census counted population; the 1971 rate is based on mean population calculated from census counted and resident based population; rates for 1972 onwards are based on mean population calculated using estimated resident population.

(b) The *Family Law Act* came into operation throughout Australia on 5 January 1976.

The most notable feature of the preceding table is the rise in divorces after introduction of the uniform *Family Law Act* in January 1976. This legislation replaced state matrimonial causes acts and established a single ground for dissolution of marriage. This was the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage which is established by the husband and wife having lived apart for 12 months or more and there being no reasonable likelihood of reconciliation.

Tasmanian crude marriage rates are generally fractionally higher than the Australian rate. For example in 1982 the Tasmanian crude rate was 8.2 marriages per '000 of mean population and the Australian rate 7.7. In the case of divorces no significant differences exist between the Tasmanian and Australian rates.

### Conjugal condition of marriage partners

In the early 1960s approximately 90 per cent of all brides and bridegrooms were either spinsters or bachelors at time of marriage. Around four per cent had a widowed marital status and a further six per cent were divorcees. Throughout the 1960s and early 1970s this pattern remained fairly stable. There was a small increase in the proportion of brides and bridegrooms with a divorcee marital status at time of marriage up to around eight or nine per cent of all brides and bridegrooms. The effect of the introduction of the *Family Law Act* in 1976 became immediately obvious in both divorce statistics and marriage statistics. In 1977, 17 per cent of all brides and bridegrooms had a divorcee marital status. In the early 1980s the proportion with divorcee status at marriage has been around 200 per cent.



**Table 2.3 Proportion of Bridegrooms and Brides by Conjugal Condition at Time of Marriage by Age Groups (Per Cent)**

Age groups years	Bridegrooms			Brides		
	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorcees	Spinsters	Widows	Divorcees
1960						
15-19	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
20-24	99.6	—	0.4	99.0	0.3	0.7
25-29	96.8	0.2	3.1	83.6	3.2	13.2
30-39	77.7	3.1	19.1	55.0	7.9	37.2
40 and over	36.6	37.4	26.0	27.2	46.5	26.2
All ages	90.1	4.1	5.8	89.5	4.4	6.1
1970						
15-19	100.0	—	—	99.8	—	0.2
20-24	99.6	—	0.4	98.3	0.2	1.4
25-29	92.1	0.5	7.4	78.4	2.3	19.3
30-39	69.0	2.5	28.4	46.6	11.0	42.5
40 and over	24.6	33.2	42.2	22.4	43.1	34.5
All ages	90.6	2.7	6.6	91.5	2.9	5.6
1976 (a)						
15-19	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
20-24	98.4	0.1	1.5	94.4	0.3	5.3
25-29	83.9	0.4	15.7	60.3	3.3	36.4
30-39	46.3	1.4	52.3	27.9	7.8	64.3
40 and over	15.0	27.7	57.3	11.5	35.7	52.8
All ages	78.5	3.3	18.1	80.7	3.8	15.5
1980						
15-19	100.0	—	—	99.9	—	0.1
20-24	98.1	—	1.9	95.0	0.1	4.9
25-29	81.6	0.5	17.9	64.6	1.5	33.9
30-39	41.5	1.5	57.0	27.5	5.8	66.7
40 and over	15.3	23.0	61.6	7.3	37.1	55.5
All ages	78.3	2.7	19.1	79.2	3.5	17.3
1982						
15-19	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
20-24	99.2	—	0.8	95.5	0.2	4.4
25-29	84.1	0.2	15.7	68.6	0.9	30.5
30-39	45.7	1.0	53.3	25.6	5.6	68.8
40 and over	15.5	23.8	60.6	12.4	30.7	56.9
All ages	77.6	2.8	19.6	77.9	3.2	19.0

(a) The Family Law Act came into effect in January 1976.

Table 2.4 cross-classifies marital status of brides and bridegrooms at time of marriage in recent years.

**Table 2.4 Marital Status of Bridegrooms and Brides at Marriage**

Marital status of bridegrooms	Marital status of brides			Total bridegrooms
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	
1980				
Never married	2 401	31	255	2 687
Widowed	14	39	39	92
Divorced	304	49	301	654
TOTAL brides	2 719	119	595	3 433
1981				
Never married	2 386	25	288	2 699
Widowed	13	59	31	103
Divorced	330	50	333	713
TOTAL brides	2 729	134	652	3 515

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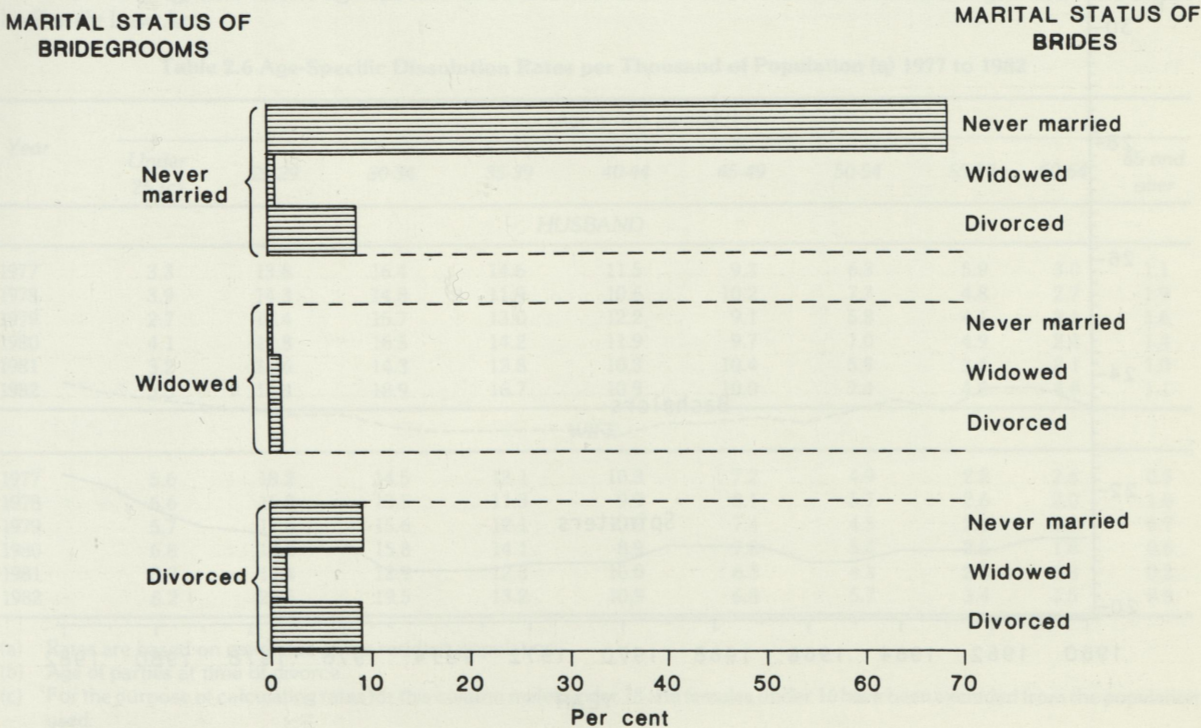
Table 2.4 Marital Status of Bridegrooms and Brides at Marriage — Continued

Marital status of bridegrooms	Marital status of brides			Total bridegrooms
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	
1982				
Never married	2 442	17	315	2 774
Widowed	16	42	42	100
Divorced	326	55	321	702
TOTAL brides	2 784	114	678	3 576

Approximately 70 per cent of marriages are between partners where the marital status of both groom and bride is never married. About nine per cent of marriages involve grooms and brides both with a divorced marital status at time of marriage. The number of divorced men remarrying is somewhat greater than the number of divorced women who remarry. Fig 2.2 illustrates, for 1982, marital status of bridegrooms and brides, for all marriages.

Fig2.2 PROPORTION OF ALL MARRIAGES BY RELATIVE MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES AT MARRIAGE: 1982

(NOTE: Percentages are of all marriages).



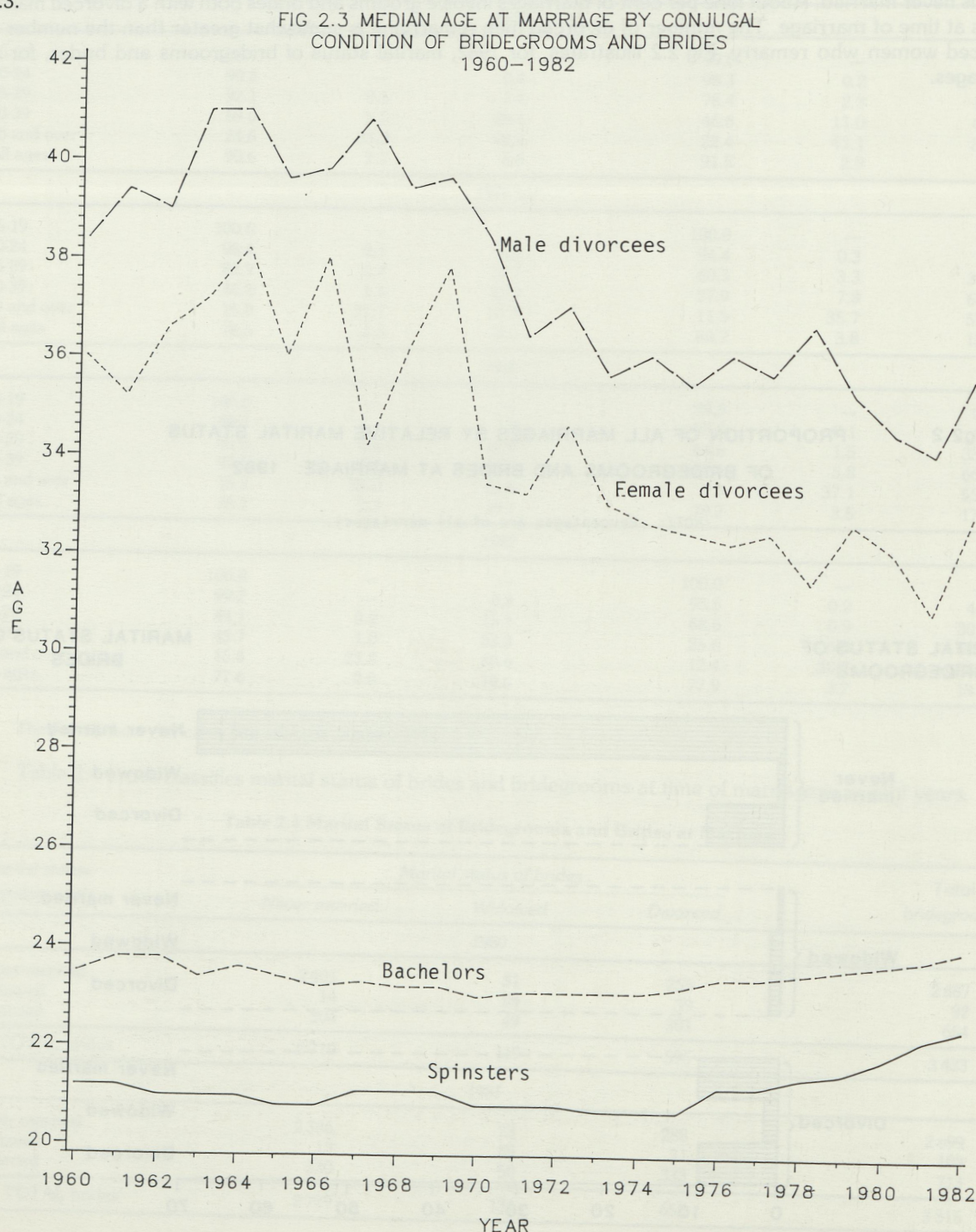


### Age at Marriage

The median age at marriage for bachelors in the early 1960s was around 23.5 years and for spinsters about 21.2 years. The 1960s and early 1970s saw a trend towards younger marriage for both bachelors and spinsters. In the early 1970s, the median age for bachelors at marriage was around 23.1 years. For spinsters it had dropped to 20.7 years by the mid 1970s. Since then, there has been a steady increase in median age at marriage for both bachelors and spinsters. During 1982, the median age at marriage for bachelors was 24.1 years and for spinsters, 22.4 years.

Another feature relating to age at marriage has been the fall in median age for divorcees remarrying. For males this has fallen from around 40 years in the early 1960s to about 35 years in the early 1980s; for females the decline has been from about 36 years to around 33 years over the same period.

Median ages for bridegrooms and brides by conjugal condition over the period 1960 to 1982 are shown in Fig 2.3.





In the early 1970s about 38 per cent of brides were in the age bracket 15-19 years and about 44 per cent were aged 20-24 years. In the latter part of the 1970s a marked change took place in the age pattern for brides. By 1979 27 per cent were in the 15-19 age group and 46 per cent were aged 20-24 years. The decline in the proportion of brides aged 15-19 has continued into the 1980s and in 1982 18 per cent of brides were aged 15-19 years and almost 48 per cent were 20-24 years old. Similar changes in age patterns have occurred for bridegrooms. Grooms aged 15-19 years accounted for around 10 per cent of all grooms in the early 1970s but had fallen to under four per cent by 1982. Similarly grooms aged 20-24 years in the early 1970s comprised about 55 per cent of all grooms. In the early 1980s this age group accounted for just under 45 per cent of grooms. Proportions of grooms in the 25-29 and 30-34 year age groups increased significantly from around 18 per cent to approximately 26 per cent for grooms aged 25-29 and for those aged 30-34 from about six per cent to just over 10 per cent.

**Table 2.5 Proportion of Bridegrooms and Brides by Age Group (Per Cent)**

Age group (years)	Bridegrooms			Brides		
	1972	1977	1982	1972	1977	1982
15-19	10.8	7.4	3.7	38.2	31.4	17.5
20-24	55.1	48.0	43.1	43.5	40.2	47.5
25-29	19.1	20.1	26.3	8.4	11.3	16.4
30-34	4.9	9.5	10.9	2.5	5.8	6.9
35-39	2.3	4.1	5.3	1.8	3.5	4.1
40-44	1.9	3.2	3.3	1.3	2.5	2.7
45-49	1.6	2.0	2.1	1.3	2.2	1.3
50 and over	4.3	5.7	5.4	3.0	3.2	3.6
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

### Marriage Dissolution

During the 1960s the Tasmanian crude divorce rate (i.e. number of divorces per thousand of mean population) was around 0.8. The early 1970s saw an increase to about 1.1 per thousand of mean population. In January 1976 the *Family Law Act* came into operation. Under this legislation the various causes such as adultery, desertion, separation, etc. were replaced by the single ground irretrievable breakdown of the marriage. This ground is established by the husband and wife having lived apart for 12 months or more and there being no reasonable likelihood of reconciliation. The effect of the new legislation, in terms of the number of dissolutions granted, became apparent immediately. In 1976 almost 1 800 dissolutions were granted compared with about 600 in 1975 under the old *Matrimonial Causes Act*. (The 1976 figure includes just over 300 granted under the *Matrimonial Causes Act*.) The increase may have been partly due to the new Act allowing the legal formalisation of divorce. For marriages which had in effect ended but parties had not obtained divorce under old legislation there was now a ground.

The following table shows age-specific dissolution rates since 1977 when all dissolutions granted were under the Family Law Act.

**Table 2.6 Age-Specific Dissolution Rates per Thousand of Population (a) 1977 to 1982**

Year	Age group (years) (b)									
	Under 25 (c)	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over
<b>HUSBAND</b>										
1977	3.3	13.8	16.4	14.6	11.5	9.3	6.3	5.9	3.0	1.1
1978	3.9	14.3	14.8	11.9	10.6	10.2	7.3	4.8	2.7	1.9
1979	2.7	16.4	15.7	13.0	12.2	9.1	5.8	4.1	3.1	1.6
1980	4.1	17.8	16.5	14.2	11.9	9.7	7.0	4.9	2.4	1.4
1981	3.2	15.6	14.3	12.8	10.3	10.4	5.9	3.4	2.1	1.0
1982	3.5	17.4	18.9	16.7	10.9	10.0	7.4	4.8	4.8	1.1
<b>WIFE</b>										
1977	5.6	18.2	14.5	12.1	10.3	7.2	4.9	2.8	2.6	0.5
1978	6.6	15.8	13.5	11.3	9.9	8.1	5.7	2.6	2.0	1.0
1979	5.7	17.6	15.6	12.1	10.2	7.4	4.5	2.8	1.8	0.7
1980	6.8	18.8	15.8	14.1	8.9	7.8	5.4	2.5	1.8	0.6
1981	5.7	17.4	12.9	12.3	10.0	6.3	4.3	2.8	1.3	0.2
1982	6.2	20.5	19.5	13.2	10.9	6.8	5.7	3.4	1.5	0.6

(a) Rates are based on estimates of the resident population.

(b) Age of parties at time of divorce.

(c) For the purpose of calculating rates for this column males under 18 and females under 16 have been excluded from the population used.



During the 1960s the median duration of marriage (i.e. interval between marriage and date the decree is made absolute) was about 13 years. During the early 1970s median duration fluctuated around 12 to 13 years. However, following introduction of *Family Law Act* and removal of the necessity to establish grounds other than the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, median duration of marriage has dropped to around 10 years.

Following introduction of the *Family Law Act* a further measure for duration of marriage became available. This was duration measured as the interval between the date of marriage and date of final separation. Generally this interval, for Tasmania, is about two and half to three years less than duration based on the period between date of marriage and date the decree is made absolute. Table 2.7 shows marriage duration for Tasmania and Australia based on both of these measures.

Table 2.7 Median Duration of Marriage: Tasmania and Australia

Year	Median duration of marriage measured as:			
	Interval between date of marriage and date decree made absolute		Interval between date of marriage and date of final separation	
	Tasmania	Australia	Tasmania	Australia
1977	10.5	10.9	7.0	7.4
1978	10.5	10.5	7.3	7.4
1979	9.9	10.3	7.4	7.5
1980	9.9	10.2	6.8	7.5
1981	9.6	10.2	6.8	7.5
1982	10.2	10.4	7.6	7.6

The interval between date of marriage and date of final separation more accurately reflects actual length of marriage. Fig 2.4 shows the proportion of marriages by duration measured on this basis.

Fig 2.4 Proportion of Dissolutions of Marriage by Duration of Marriage

(Note: Duration is measured as interval between date of marriage and date of final separation.)

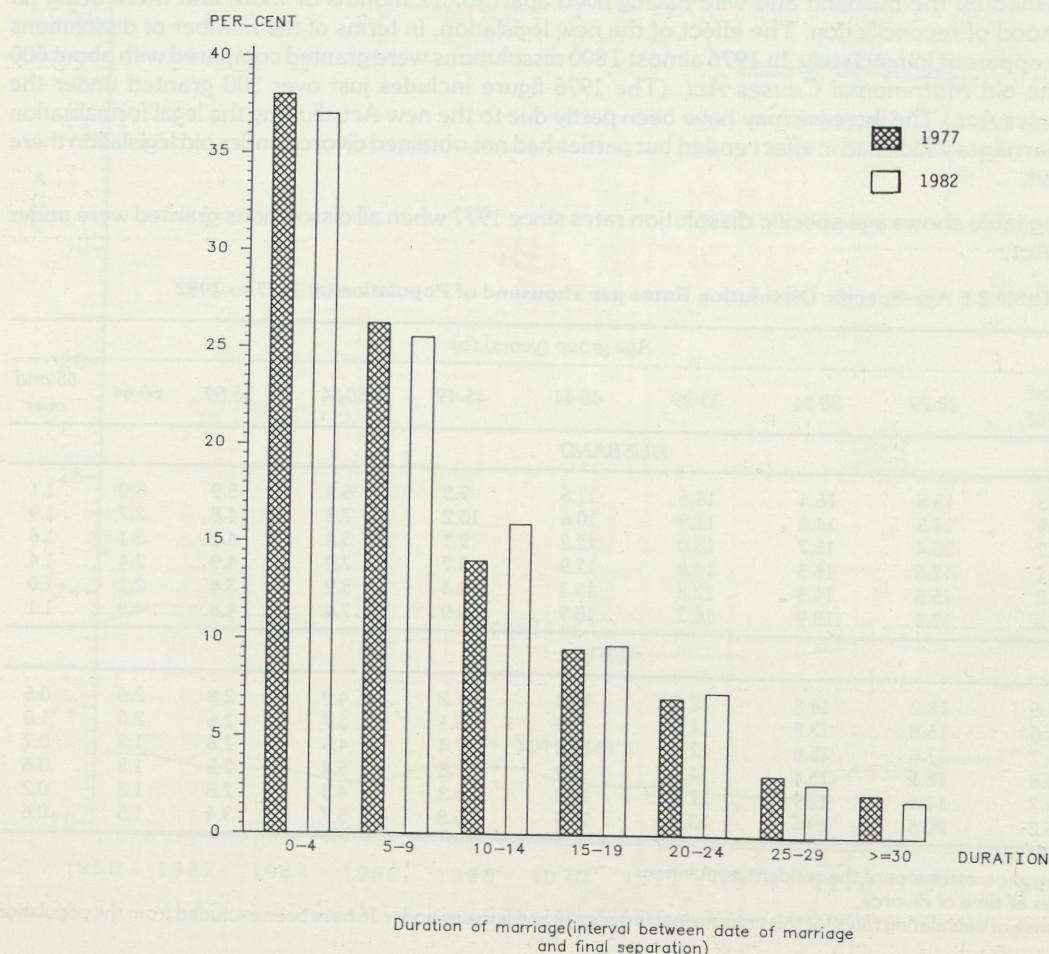




Table 2.8 shows the distribution by age of parties at final separation for the period 1977 to 1982.

**Table 2.8 Dissolutions: Percentage Distribution by Ages of Parties at Final Separation, Tasmania, 1977 to 1982**

Year	Age group (years)								
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over
<b>HUSBAND</b>									
1977	18.4	24.8	18.8	12.6	9.8	6.8	4.9	2.2	1.6
1978	19.0	22.3	17.7	12.3	11.3	8.3	4.6	2.4	2.1
1979	16.1	25.9	18.2	14.1	9.7	6.8	4.1	2.3	2.6
1980	19.2	24.6	18.0	14.2	9.2	6.2	4.0	2.3	2.3
1981	17.8	25.3	17.5	14.1	10.2	6.7	4.9	1.8	1.8
1982	15.8	24.5	22.6	12.8	8.7	6.8	3.7	3.0	2.1
<b>WIFE</b>									
1977	34.1	22.8	14.5	11.0	6.2	5.9	3.0	1.6	0.8
1978	30.5	23.7	14.7	11.3	7.6	5.9	3.2	1.7	1.4
1979	29.1	23.2	18.1	11.2	7.6	5.6	2.0	1.6	1.7
1980	31.8	23.9	16.1	11.4	6.7	4.9	3.1	1.0	1.0
1981	29.7	23.5	18.1	11.7	8.0	4.5	2.3	1.2	1.0
1982	28.6	24.5	19.7	11.1	6.9	3.6	3.1	1.6	0.9

Around 65 per cent of marriages that are dissolved involve children. ('Children of the marriage' as defined by the *Family Law Act* represent persons who are unmarried and aged under 18 years at the time of application for divorce.) Table 2.9 shows dissolutions by duration of marriage and number of children for 1982.

**Table 2.9 Dissolutions: Number of Children (a) and Duration of Marriage (b), Tasmania 1982**

Duration of marriage (years)	Dissolutions by number of children				Total number of dissolutions	Total children	Average number of children	
	0	1	2	3 or more			All dissolutions	Dissolutions involving children
1	12	3	—	—	15	3	0.2	1.0
2	53	26	7	1	87	44	0.5	1.3
3	59	21	8	2	90	43	0.5	1.4
4	57	33	9	8	107	76	0.7	1.5
5	38	23	26	2	89	81	0.9	1.6
6	30	24	21	7	82	87	1.1	1.7
7	24	13	31	9	77	102	1.3	1.9
8	14	22	17	10	63	89	1.4	1.8
9	5	10	45	14	74	146	2.0	2.1
10-14	30	39	120	90	279	569	2.0	2.3
15-19	10	31	55	82	178	439	2.5	2.6
20-24	35	34	31	19	119	164	1.4	2.0
25-29	31	27	2	4	64	45	0.7	1.4
30 and over	57	8	1	1	67	14	0.2	1.4
Not stated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>1391</b>	<b>1902</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>

(a) For a definition of children, see preceding paragraph.

(b) Duration of marriage used in this table is the period between date of marriage and date decree made absolute.

### Family Size and Composition

The following statistics are based on census results. To understand and use these statistics it is necessary to know something about the underlying definitions used to compile the information.



- The census household and family statistics relate only to persons in private dwellings on census night. Normal residents elsewhere on census night are excluded from their household.
- A household is defined as a group of people living together as a single domestic unit and having common eating arrangements on census night. A person who lives alone in a private dwelling constitutes a household. Each household must have at least one member to whom relationships of other household members can be expressed. This enables household and family compositions to be established. Generally, but not always, a household will comprise only one family unit. A household may contain non-family members or more than one family unit.
- Family coding relates only to persons present within the individual households on census night and are coded only for private dwellings. Families (family units) are defined on the basis of blood and marriage (including de facto) relationships and are largely based on the immediate family.
- If a household contained more than one family unit then the family units were split into the primary family unit and secondary family units. Briefly, the family of the household head is the primary family unit. Families, other than that of the household head, were designated secondary family units.

A full explanation of census household and family statistics is contained in the ABS publication 'Dwelling, Household, Family', Catalogue No. 2150.0.

The next table summarises family structures for Tasmania at the 1981 Census. Dependants, for purpose of Census statistics, are all issue children in the family aged 0-15 years and all issue children in the family aged 16-20 years who are full-time students.

**Table 2.10 Families: Family Type by Marital Status and Sex of Head (a), Tasmania**

Family type	Marital status and sex of family head					
	Never married		Now married		Separated not divorced	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Head only .....	6 734	4 968	1 036	710	1 431	775
Head with dependants .....	102	1 361	212	1 001	267	1 713
Head and spouse .....	325	85	27 890	1 915	82	21
Head, spouse and dependants .....	408	43	37 932	1 320	123	43
Head and other adults .....	762	603	255	265	185	298
Head, other adults and dependants .....	24	81	104	279	74	383
Head, spouse and other adults .....	28	2	10 535	373	12	7
Head, spouse, other adults and dependants .....	47	—	9 873	251	19	9
<b>TOTAL (b)</b>	<b>8 430</b>	<b>7 140</b>	<b>87 840</b>	<b>6 110</b>	<b>2 190</b>	<b>3 250</b>

Family type	Marital status and sex of family head					
	Divorced		Widowed		Total (b)	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Head only .....	2 077	1 412	2 110	9 275	13 390	17 140
Head with dependants .....	337	2 062	114	744	1 030	6 880
Head and spouse .....	128	30	17	60	28 440	2 110
Head, spouse and dependants .....	205	57	12	11	38 680	1 480
Head and other adults .....	251	566	502	2 407	1 950	4 140
Head, other adults and dependants .....	68	512	84	474	350	1 730
Head, spouse and other adults .....	16	9	3	15	10 590	410
Head, spouse, other adults and dependants .....	43	11	2	12	9 990	280
<b>TOTAL (b)</b>	<b>3 130</b>	<b>4 660</b>	<b>2 850</b>	<b>13 000</b>	<b>104 420</b>	<b>34 170</b>

(a) Cells in the table have been randomly adjusted. This was part of ABS confidentiality practices adopted for release of 1981 Census data.

(b) Totals rounded to nearest ten.

Tasmanian and Australian family type distributions differ only marginally. Table 2.11 shows the distribution of family types at the 1976 and 1981 censuses. The table indicates that there has been an increase in the proportion of one person families and also an increase in head with dependants. Based on census data it appears that the proportion of families, classified as head with dependants, is slightly higher in Tasmania than for Australia as a whole. Head with dependant does not necessarily mean a single parent family. If one of the partners were absent



from home on census night then they would not be counted but the family type would appear as head with dependant(s). The other notable difference between 1976 and 1981 relates to proportion of families classified as head, spouse, other adults and dependants. The drop from 1976 to 1981 partly reflects different coding procedures adopted for 1981. In 1976 if grandparents or parents-in-law were present then they were included as ancestors in the primary family units. For 1981 such persons were coded to a secondary family unit (i.e. formed a second family with the household).

**Table 2.11 Proportion of Families by Family Type 1981 Census : Tasmania and Australia (Per Cent)**

Family type	Proportion of families			
	Tasmania		Australia	
	1976	1981	1976	1981
Head only	18.4	22.0	19.8	23.1
Head with dependants	4.1	5.7	3.8	5.2
Head and spouse	22.6	22.0	22.5	22.1
Head, spouse and dependants	30.6	29.0	29.0	28.6
Head and other adults	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.6
Head, other adults and dependants	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
Head, spouse and other adults	8.2	7.9	8.9	7.7
Head, spouse, other adults and dependants	10.0	7.4	9.8	7.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

One way an approximation of the number of single parent families with dependent children can be derived from the census data is by aggregating for all marital statuses, except now married, the following family types: (i) head with dependant; and (ii) head, other adults and dependants. This assumes that all persons who give marital status as 'now married' in these two family types mentioned have a partner who was absent from home on census night and treats other 'de facto' relationships as a two parent family situation. It also needs to be remembered that marital status is based on the self-perception of the respondent. A further point, when comparing 1976 and 1981 figures in table 2.12, is that marital status categories were altered slightly from 1976 to 1981 censuses. In 1976 Census the marital status category 'married but permanently separated' was asked; in 1981 the category used was 'separated but not divorced'. This change could have affected how persons reported the marital status 'now married'.

The majority of single parent families, as defined in the preceding paragraph, had a female head. In the case of Tasmania there was a significant decrease in the proportion of 'single parent' families with a female head from 91.7 per cent in 1976 to 87.3 per cent at the 1981 Census. The Census figures also suggest that the proportion of 'single parent' families in Tasmania is marginally higher than for Australia as a whole.

**Table 2.12 'Single Parent' Families (a) : Tasmania and Australia; Censuses 1976 and 1981**

	Tasmania		Australia	
	1976	1981	1976	1981
Number	5 590	8 400	171 050	259 440
Proportion of all family types (%)	4.5	6.1	4.0	5.4
Number with female head	5 130	7 330	147 210	224 830
Proportion of 'single parent' families with female head (%)	91.7	87.3	86.1	86.7

(a) Sum for all marital statuses, except now married, for the following family types: (i) head with dependant; and (ii) head, other adults and dependants.

Fig 2.5 shows family types with dependants by number of dependants. The number of family types at the 1981 Census were: (i) head with dependants 7 900; (ii) head, spouse and dependants, 40 200; (iii) head, adults and dependants 2 100; (iv) head, spouse, adults and dependants 10 300. Some of the families which have head but no spouse present are not necessarily single parent families as the Census counts people according to actual location on Census night. There were 1 600 families with head only present on Census night and where the head reported marital status as now married.



FIG 2.5 FAMILY TYPES PROPORTION OF EACH FAMILY TYPE  
BY NUMBER OF DEPENDANTS  
TASMANIA · CENSUS 1981

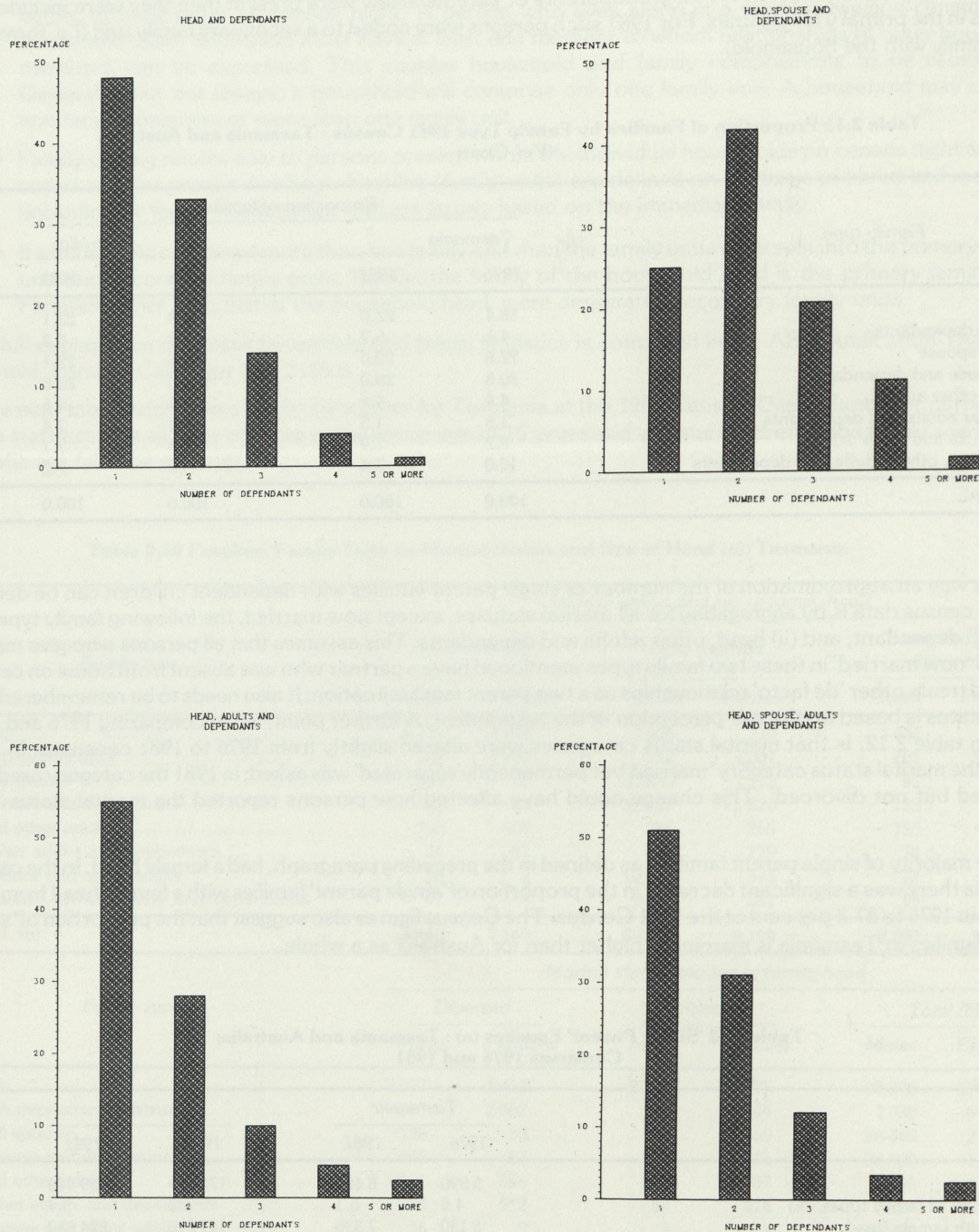


Table 2.13 shows family types by local government areas at the 1981 Census.



Table 2.13 Family Composition by Local Government Area, Census 1981 (a)

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Head only	Head and dependants		Head and spouse	Head, spouse and dependants
			Male head	Female head		
Hobart	(H)	7 023	122	738	3 902	3 247
Glenorchy	(H)	2 981	94	676	3 333	3 475
Clarence	(H)	2 051	126	924	2 842	4 646
Brighton	(H)(S)	227	27	306	251	1 341
Kingborough	(H)(S)	884	47	268	1 323	2 003
New Norfolk	(H)(S)	464	24	117	568	903
Sorell	(H)(S)	385	18	74	505	559
Bothwell	(S)	69	—	9	63	74
Bruny	(S)	57	2	7	48	26
Esperance	(S)	189	6	37	270	319
Glamorgan	(S)	150	5	23	198	132
Green Ponds	(S)	63	4	12	73	98
Hamilton	(S)	145	10	21	165	264
Huon	(S)	261	6	56	346	512
Oatlands	(S)	149	4	22	149	212
Port Cygnet	(S)	153	10	45	179	226
Richmond	(S)	104	—	27	159	159
Spring Bay	(S)	129	4	19	161	198
Tasman	(S)	112	2	14	122	81
HOBART STAT DIV (b)		13 630	440	3 030	12 230	15 510
SOUTHERN STAT DIV (b)		1 960	70	360	2 430	2 970
Launceston		3 651	71	513	2 779	2 306
Beaconsfield		745	23	147	1 122	1 459
Deloraine		344	14	76	378	469
Evandale		96	3	22	134	219
George Town		324	19	109	340	844
Lilydale		385	17	144	592	870
Longford		369	16	85	447	570
St Leonards		1 072	59	445	1 203	2 115
Westbury		372	12	78	513	665
Tamar Stat Subdivision (b)		7 360	230	1 620	7 510	9 520
Campbell Town		117	6	27	112	135
Fingal		254	9	22	223	291
Flinders		75	5	10	78	117
Portland		197	7	38	220	183
Ringarooma		160	6	26	167	230
Ross		33	3	4	42	54
Scottsdale		315	10	46	326	424
North Eastern Stat Subdivision (b)		1 150	50	170	1 170	1 430
NORTHERN STAT DIV (b)		8 510	280	1 790	8 680	10 950
Burnie		1 308	44	384	1 386	1 932
Circular Head		448	21	84	504	820
Devonport		1 545	62	468	1 717	2 296
Kentish		224	9	74	273	434
King Island		156	12	28	166	289
Latrobe		348	6	62	402	529
Penguin		274	15	74	371	544
Ulverstone		821	24	222	1 009	1 230
Wynyard		734	21	189	815	1 197
North Western Stat Subdivision (b)		5 860	210	1 590	6 640	9 270
Gormanston		14	—	6	5	6
Queenstown		264	8	52	201	378
Strahan		41	2	7	23	33
Waratah		54	6	9	110	283
Zeehan		194	11	35	234	757
Western Stat Subdivision (b)		570	30	110	570	1 460
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV (b)		6 430	240	1 690	7 220	10 730
TASMANIA (b)		30 530	1 030	6 880	30 550	40 160

(a) Cells in the above table have been randomly adjusted. This was part of the ABS confidentiality practices adopted for release on the 1981 Census data.

(b) Totals rounded to nearest ten.

NOTE: table continued on next page.



Table 2.13 Family Composition by Local Government Area Census 1981 (a) — Continued

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Head & other adults	Head, other adults & dependants	Head, spouse and other adults	Head, spouse other adults & dependants	Total families
Hobart (H)	981	169	1 101	823	18 106
Glenorchy (H)	732	252	1 423	1 215	14 181
Clarence (H)	553	279	1 202	1 230	13 853
Brighton (H)(S)	67	88	129	193	2 629
Kingborough (H)(S)	158	65	397	378	5 523
New Norfolk (H)(S)	107	49	263	276	2 771
Sorell (H)(S)	77	17	140	85	1 860
Bothwell (S)	13	3	15	14	260
Bruny (S)	7	2	4	4	157
Esperance (S)	46	12	82	62	1 023
Glamorgan (S)	23	3	33	19	586
Green Ponds (S)	17	2	24	31	324
Hamilton (S)	28	9	67	63	772
Huon (S)	43	14	116	146	1 500
Oatlands (S)	42	11	61	39	689
Port Cygnet (S)	34	16	47	44	754
Richmond (S)	33	5	67	54	608
Spring Bay (S)	18	6	42	46	623
Tasman (S)	15	7	23	25	401
HOBERT STAT DIV (b)	2 600	890	4 490	4 020	56 840
SOUTHERN STAT DIV (b)	390	120	740	730	9 780
Launceston	664	168	836	583	11 571
Beaconsfield	151	45	413	359	4 464
Deloraine	72	15	133	127	1 628
Evandale	20	7	46	49	596
George Town	48	27	159	205	2 075
Lilydale	139	69	275	266	2 757
Longford	69	25	154	142	1 877
St Leonards	256	142	535	552	6 379
Westbury	96	24	182	166	2 108
Tamar Stat Subdivision (b)	1 520	520	2 730	2 450	33 460
Campbell Town	19	7	47	36	506
Fingal	51	10	63	73	996
Flinders	12	3	28	19	347
Portland	23	7	57	42	774
Ringarooma	39	11	56	61	756
Ross	9	—	12	15	172
Scottsdale	58	16	137	108	1 440
North Eastern Stat Subdivision (b)	210	60	400	350	4 990
NORTHERN STAT DIV (b)	1 730	580	3 130	2 800	38 450
Burnie	272	95	542	536	6 499
Circular Head	85	41	219	186	2 408
Devonport	352	131	620	547	7 738
Kentish	62	16	100	120	1 312
King Island	29	10	49	54	793
Latrobe	72	26	178	154	1 777
Penguin	64	22	134	142	1 640
Ulverstone	186	71	323	314	4 200
Wynyard	124	46	247	370	3 743
North Western Stat Subdivision (b)	1 250	460	2 410	2 420	30 110
Gormanston	5	2	2	6	46
Queenstown	78	16	92	99	1 188
Strahan	12	5	12	11	146
Waratah	5	—	33	36	536
Zeehan	28	19	79	139	1 496
Western Stat Subdivision (b)	130	40	220	290	3 410
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV (b)	1 370	500	2 630	2 720	33 520
TASMANIA	6 090	2 080	11 000	10 270	138 590

(a) Cells in the above table have been randomly adjusted. This was part of the ABS confidentiality practices adopted for release of the 1981 Census data.

(b) Totals rounded to nearest ten.



The next table highlights those local government areas with the greatest variation, in per centage terms, from the State average for each particular family type.

Some of the more notable departures from the State average for family types include:

*Hobart and Launceston* — In both of these LGAs over 30 per cent of the family types were head only (i.e. persons living alone). This is partly explained by the high proportion of the population who are flat dwellers within the local government areas and elderly persons living alone.

*Brighton* — This local government area has the highest proportion of head and dependant families and the second highest proportion of head, spouse and dependant families of all LGAs. This reflects the recent development of the Bridgewater-Gagebrook government housing suburb within the LGA and the consequent influx of young families. Conversely, Brighton LGA has the lowest proportion of any LGA of head only families and head and spouse families.

*Waratah and Zeehan* — Both LGAs have in excess of 50 per cent of their family types as head, spouse and dependants. Both are mining areas and have recently experienced development of mining towns and at the time of the Census, Zeehan contained a HEC construction village. Both LGAs had very low proportions of head and dependant family types.

**Table 2.14 Principal Family Types: State Proportions and Local Government Areas with Greatest Variations from State Average — Census 1981**

Family type and proportion of all family types at State level		Local government areas with greatest variation from State average (a) (proportion of family type shown in brackets after LGA)	
Family type	Proportion of all families at State level %		
Head only (i.e. single person household)	22.0	Above:	Hobart (38.8), Launceston (31.6)
		Below:	Brighton (8.6), Waratah (10.1), Zeehan (13.0), Lilydale (14.0), George Town (15.6), Kingborough (16.0), Evandale (16.1), Beaconsfield (16.7), Penguin (16.7), New Norfolk (16.7), St Leonards (16.8)
Head and dependants	6.4	Above:	Brighton (12.8), St Leonards (7.9), Port Cygnet (7.3)
		Below:	Waratah (2.8), Zeehan (3.1), Fingal (3.1), Spring Bay (3.7), Beaconsfield (3.8), Latrobe (3.8), Oatlands (3.8), Scottsdale (3.9)
Head and spouse	22.5	Above:	Glamorgan (33.8), Port Cygnet (28.4)
		Below:	Brighton (9.5), Zeehan (15.6), George Town (16.4), Queenstown (16.9)
Head, spouse and dependants	30.9	Above:	Waratah (52.8), Brighton (51.0), Zeehan (50.6), George Town (40.7), Evandale (36.7), King Island (36.4), Kingborough (36.3)
		Below:	Launceston (17.6), Hobart (17.9), Glamorgan (22.5), Port Cygnet (23.6), Glenorchy (24.5)
Head, spouse and other adults	7.8	Above:	Richmond (11.0), Glenorchy (10.0), Latrobe (10.0), Lilydale (10.0), Beaconsfield (9.3)
		Below:	Clarence (2.0), Brighton (4.9), Zeehan (5.3), Glamorgan (5.6)
Head, spouse, other adults and dependants	7.8	Above:	New Norfolk (10.0), George Town (9.9), Wynyard (9.9)
		Below:	Glamorgan (3.2), Hobart (4.5), Sorell (4.6), Launceston (5.0), Portland (5.4), Oatlands (5.7), Port Cygnet (5.8)

(a) Local government areas with a total family count of less than 500 are excluded.



Table 2.15 shows the proportion of family types on a regional basis at the 1981 Census.

**Table 2.15 Proportion of Family Types by Statistical Division at 1981 Census (a)**  
(Per Cent)

Family type	Statistical division				Total Tasmania
	Hobart	Southern	Northern	Mersey- Lyell	
Head only	24.0	20.0	22.1	19.2	22.0
Head with dependants	6.1	4.4	5.4	5.8	5.7
Head and spouse	21.5	24.9	22.6	21.5	22.0
Head, spouse and dependants	27.3	30.4	28.5	32.0	29.0
Head and other adults	4.6	4.0	4.5	4.1	4.4
Head, other adults and dependants	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5
Head, spouse and other adults	7.9	7.6	8.1	7.8	7.9
Head, spouse, other adults and dependants	7.1	7.5	7.3	8.1	7.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Numeric cells in the above table have been randomly adjusted. This was part of ABS confidentiality practices adopted for 1981 Census data release.

### Adoptions

The following adoption statistics are based on information supplied by the State Department of Community Welfare to the WELSTAT secretariat. (WELSTAT is responsible for developing standards such as classifications, counting rules, etc. and compiling national statistics in the welfare field.) The following definitions apply.

- *Adoption* is established by means of an adoption order of a child or adult as if he/she had been the son/daughter of the particular person(s) and establishes the person(s) as the parents of the child or adult.
- *Adopted person* is a child or adult who, as the result of an adoption order, has been established as if he/she were the son/daughter of the particular person(s).
- *Adoptive parent* is a person who has become the parent of a child or adult as the result of an adoption order.
- *Relative* is: (i) the natural parent or spouse of a natural parent; (ii) adoptive parent through a previous adoption order or spouse of an adoptive parent; or (iii) grandparent, brother, sister, aunt or uncle of the child.

Table 2.16 shows the number of adoptions in Tasmania by relationship of adoptive parents for recent years.

**Table 2.16 Adopted Persons: Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Adopted Person:**  
1975-76 to 1982-83

Year	Relative of adoptive parents to adopted person		Total adopted persons
	Relative	Non-relative	
1975-76 .....	48	163	211
1976-77 .....	70	115	185
1977-78 .....	64	100	164
1978-79 .....	69	104	173
1979-80 .....	58	90	148
1980-81 .....	65	75	140
1981-82 .....	56	63	119
1982-83 .....	55	62	117

### Patterns of Fertility

In this section two rates are used as measures of fertility:

- *Age-specific birth rate*: the number of live births at each age of mother per thousand females of that age. Rates can be calculated for any age group. Generally they are for single year or five year groupings.
- *Total fertility rate (TFR)*: the sum of the age-specific birth rates in a given year. (If five year age groups are used then the age-specific rates are summed and multiplied by five and divided by 1 000 to give TFR.) It represents the number of births per thousand women that would be attained if a hypothetical cohort of women reproduced at the various age-specific rates of the given year over their reproductive life-span.

The late 1950s and early 1960s were periods of peak fertility in the post-war era. Rates started to decline during the mid 1960s. The decline continued steadily through the 1970s. By 1981 total fertility for Tasmania was only 50.9 per cent of the 1961 rate. The decline in fertility over the period 1961 to the early 1980s is illustrated in Table 2.17. The 1961 and 1966 rates were based on Census 'as counted' population. The 1976 and 1981 rates are based on estimated resident population. Table 2.17 shows 1971 data calculated on both bases to illustrate the effect of using the two population concepts for rate calculations.



Table 2.17 Age-Specific Birth and Total Fertility Rates (a)  
Census Years 1954 to 1981

Age-group (years)	Rates based on Census 'as counted' population			Rates based on estimated resident population		
	1961	1966	1971	1971	1976	1981
<i>Age-specific birth rates</i>						
15-19 (b)	70.4	64.7	65.7	64.2	44.0	38.2
20-24	261.8	203.6	208.6	202.1	150.8	136.6
25-29	235.0	176.9	183.8	180.0	133.9	145.4
30-34	138.3	95.9	89.1	87.5	61.6	68.7
35-39	75.2	49.3	35.7	35.1	19.3	18.9
40-44	23.6	14.6	11.0	10.8	6.4	3.7
45-49	2.1	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.4	—
<i>Total fertility rate (c)</i>						
15-49	4.032	3.031	2.975	2.904	2.082	2.058
<i>Index of fertility (d)</i>						
15-49	138.8	104.4	102.4	100.0	71.7	70.9

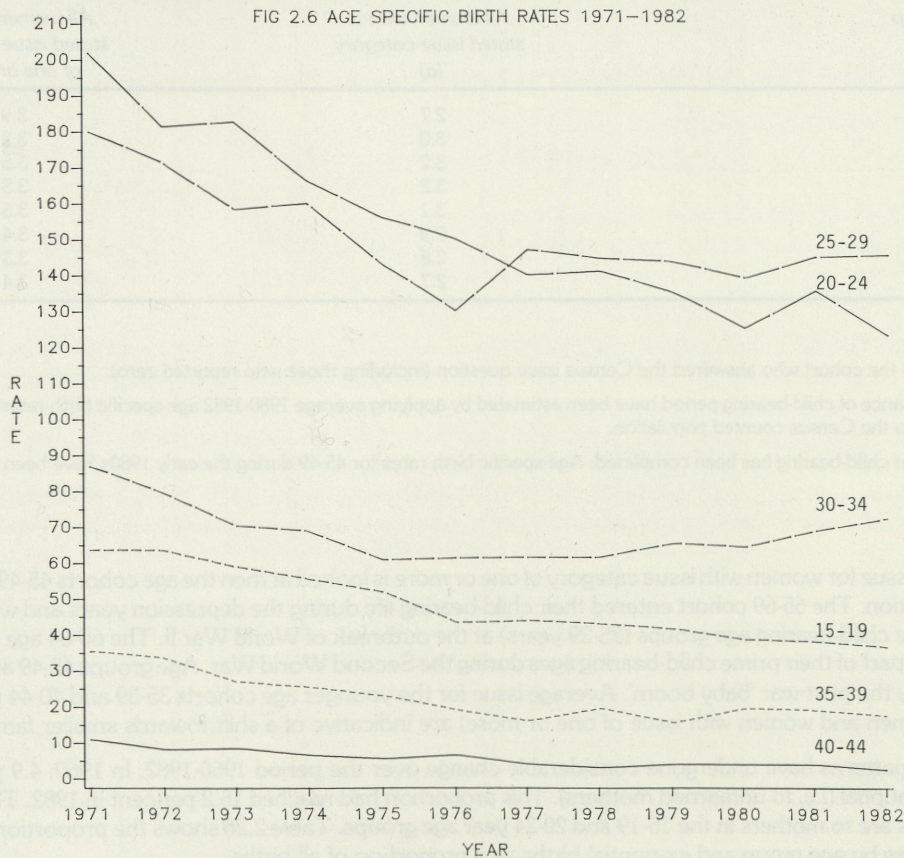
(a) Live births registered during the calendar year per thousand females in age group at 30 June.

(b) Includes live births to females aged 10-14 years.

(c) Sum of age-specific birth rates multiplied by five (the age group interval) and divided by 1000.

(d) Base of index: total fertility rate 1971 based on age-specific birth rates calculated using 1971 estimated resident population figures.

Fig. 2.6 illustrates the decline in age-specific birth rates that has taken place over the period 1971 to 1982. One of the features illustrated by the graph is replacement of the 20-24 age group as the most fertile group by the 25-29 age group. There has also been a slight recovery in the age-specific birth rate for women in the age 30-34 group. Several factors have contributed to the decline in fertility of the 15-19 age group. These include later marriage (since the mid 1970s median age for spinster brides has increased from 20.7 years to 22.4 years in 1982). The period between marriage and first birth has also increased. In the mid-60s the median duration between marriage and first child was around one year. Throughout the 1970s median duration between marriage and first live birth showed a steady upward trend which has continued in the early 1980s. It was 2.3 years in 1982.





Examination of births data based on birth registration statistics and Census issue data indicate a trend towards smaller families. Table 2.18 illustrates changes in issue fertility over the period 1975 to 1982. Examination of the changes also supports the conclusion that part of the decline in fertility during the 1970s was due to postponement of births and that the stabilisation and recovery in the early 1980s is partly a result of the formerly postponed births now taking place.

Table 2.18 Indexes of Total Fertility by Issue (a) All Births (b) 1975 to 1982 (1975 Rate = 100)

Year	Issue								All issues
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 or more	
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1976	94	96	98	90	75	63	70	124	94
1977	97	94	95	93	68	44	48	88	94
1978	97	94	99	85	72	50	45	68	93
1979	97	89	95	88	74	45	58	48	92
1980	97	83	91	85	65	39	24	44	89
1981	102	85	96	89	69	55	39	40	93
1982	101	85	90	85	58	36	27	12	90

- (a) Total number of births by issue per thousand women in the child-bearing age group 15-49 years. Calculated by summing age-specific issue birth rates and multiplying by five (the number of years in each age cohort).
- (b) Nuptial and ex-nuptial. Ex-nuptial births by issue are not available for Tasmania prior to 1975.

The following table is based on 1981 Census data. The 1981 Census asked the question 'for each woman how many babies has she ever had?' Still-births were excluded.

Table 2.19 Average Issue by Selected Age Group

Age group	Average issue	
	All women with a stated issue category (a)	All women with a stated issue category of one or more
35-39 (b)	2.7	2.9
40-44 (b)	3.0	3.2
45-49 (c)	3.2	3.5
50-54	3.2	3.5
55-59	3.1	3.5
60-64	2.9	3.4
65-69	2.8	3.3
70 +	2.7	3.4

- (a) All women in the cohort who answered the Census issue question (including those who reported zero).
- (b) Births for balance of child-bearing period have been estimated by applying average 1980-1982 age-specific birth rates and age-specific death rates to the Census counted population.
- (c) Assumed that child-bearing has been completed. Age-specific birth rates for 45-49 during the early 1980s have been less than 0.1 per thousand.

If average issue for women with issue category of one or more is looked at then the age cohorts 45-49 and upwards show little variation. The 65-69 cohort entered their child-bearing life during the depression years and were still within one of the prime child-bearing age groups (25-29 years) at the outbreak of World War II. The 60-64 age group passed through a large part of their prime child-bearing ages during the Second World War. Age groups 45-49 and 50-54 were both affected by the post-war 'baby boom'. Average issue for the younger age cohorts 35-39 and 40-44 years (both in terms of all women and women with issue of one or more) are indicative of a shift towards smaller families.

Nuptiality patterns have undergone considerable change over the period 1960-1982. In 1960, 4.9 per cent of all births were ex-nuptial (i.e. to unmarried mothers). This proportion had reached 15.2 per cent in 1982. The majority of ex-nuptial births are to mothers in the 15-19 and 20-24 year age groups. Table 2.20 shows the proportion of ex-nuptial births to mothers by age group and ex-nuptial births as a proportion of all births.



Table 2.20 Ex-Nuptial Births — Proportion by Age Group and as a Proportion of all Births

Age group	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1982
<i>Proportion of ex-nuptial births by age group (per cent)</i>						
15-19 (a)	33.9	52.2	45.5	49.6	42.4	38.1
20-24	28.4	25.1	30.8	27.0	32.5	35.3
25-29	13.2	10.2	14.8	15.8	15.6	16.2
30-34	12.9	7.2	4.2	5.4	7.2	8.2
35-39	9.2	4.0	3.5	1.5	2.0	2.0
40-44	2.1	1.3	2.3	0.5	0.3	0.3
45-49	0.2	—	—	0.1	—	—
15-49	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Ex-nuptial births as a proportion of all births (per cent)</i>						
15-49	4.9	6.3	7.9	10.9	14.1	15.2

## DATA REFERENCES

ABS Catalogue No.

Title

2150.0	<i>Dwelling, Household, Family</i>
2449.0	<i>Cross-classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings: 1981 Census of Population and Housing, Tasmania</i>
2452.0	<i>Cross-classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings: 1981 Census of Population and Housing, Australia</i>
3101.0	<i>Australian Demographic Statistics</i>
3101.6	<i>Demography, Tasmania — final issue 1982</i>
3202.6	<i>Population and Vitals Statistics, Tasmania</i>
3302.6	<i>Divorces, Tasmania</i>
3306.0	<i>Marriages, Australia</i>
3307.0	<i>Divorces, Australia</i>
4406.0	<i>Adoptions, Australia</i>
1984/1	<i>Fertility Trends in Tasmania — Occasional Paper</i>
—	<i>Families in Australia</i> , B.A. English, R.J. King, University of New South Wales, Family Research Unit.







## Chapter 3

### HEALTH

#### Introduction

Health is a major determinant of an individual's well being. Generally it tends to be viewed in relative terms and usually the negative aspect of ill-health is concentrated upon. Ill health is more noticeable and has a more obvious impact upon a person's observed and own perceived well-being. It is also the aspect most commonly 'measured' by statistical collections and surveys and the aspect which receives most resource funding.

Within this chapter the following statistical series have been drawn upon to give a description of community health and changes:

- life-expectancy — changes in life expectancy indicate broad overall changes in community health as measured by changes in longevity of the population.
- mortality statistics — in broad terms these indicate changing patterns over time in rates and causes of death and disease differences between age - sex groups.
- morbidity statistics — give an indication of diseases currently afflicting the population and receiving attention in hospitals.
- health surveys of the population based on personal interview indicate self-perceived health status in terms of illnesses, feeling of well-being and treatment experienced.
- services provided and their usage are also indicative of the general well-being of the community in terms of health, of the community's capacity to care for the 'sick' and service usage.

#### Life Expectancy and Mortality

##### *Life Expectancy*

A measure, often used to indicate changes in the broad health status of the community over time and to make comparisons between countries, is life expectancy. Life expectancy is the number of years that a person can, on average, expect to live based on the given mortality experience used in compiling the life-table.

In the early part of this century life expectancy at age 0 was less than at age 5 years. This reflected the prevailing high infant mortality rates and death rates during the early years of life. (Infant mortality rates of 100 per 1000 live births were not uncommon.) Improvements in sanitation, housing conditions, ante and post natal care, access to medical facilities and eradication of once common childhood diseases such as diphtheria and whooping cough have been mainly responsible for the reduction in the infant mortality rates and death rates in the younger years of childhood. The consequence of the major reduction in infant mortality rates (currently around 10 to 15 per thousand live births in Tasmania) has been a substantial increase in life expectancy at age 0 for both males and females. Expectation of life at age 0 for males has improved by 16 years since the beginning of the century and for females by 19.4 years.

At the higher ages (60 years) the changes in life expectancy were only minor up to around the 1970s. In 1970-72 life expectancy for males aged 60 was 15.4 years compared with 14.3 years in the first decade of the century and for females 19.7 compared with 14.3 years. Over the past 10 years there has been a significant increase in the life expectancy for persons reaching age 60 — for males it has increased by 1.8 years to 17.2 years in 1982 and for females by 2.2 years to 21.9 years. A considerable part of this improvement over the past decade can be related to prevention and improvements in treatment of diseases associated with the circulatory system ('heart attacks', 'strokes' and like diseases). Over the decade to 1982 age-specific death rates in Tasmania for these diseases for males aged 60-64 years decreased by around 30 per cent and for females aged 60-64 years by around 40 per cent.



The other salient feature of the life expectancy table is that females at all ages have a higher life expectation than males. From a welfare point of view this means there is going to be significantly more elderly women than elderly men in the community. Many of these elderly women will be single and will require support services.

Life expectancies shown in Table 3.1 are based on Commonwealth Actuarial and ABS prepared life tables. Based on ABS prepared life tables life expectancy for the Tasmanian population is fractionally lower than Australian life expectancy. In 1982 life expectancy at age 0 for Tasmanian males was 0.3 years less than the Australian expectancy and for females 0.8 years less. At age 60 life expectancy differences were for Tasmanian males 0.3 year less and females 0.5 years less than the Australian equivalents. Life expectancy in Australia and Tasmania is fairly similar to expectancy in countries such as New Zealand, Canada and the United States of America.

Table 3.1 Australian Life Table: Expectation of Life

Age	1901-1910		1920-1922		1960-1962		1982	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0	55.2	58.8	59.1	63.3	67.9	74.2	71.2	78.2
5	57.9	58.6	60.4	63.6	64.8	70.8	67.2	74.1
10	53.5	56.4	56.0	59.2	59.9	65.9	62.4	69.1
20	44.7	47.5	47.0	50.0	50.4	56.2	52.8	59.3
30	36.5	39.3	38.4	41.5	41.1	46.5	43.5	49.6
40	28.6	31.5	30.1	33.1	31.8	37.0	34.1	39.9
50	21.2	23.7	22.2	24.9	23.1	27.9	25.1	30.6
60	14.3	16.2	15.1	17.2	15.6	19.5	17.2	21.9
70	8.7	10.0	9.3	10.4	9.8	12.2	10.7	14.2

### Mortality

Three rates are used to describe mortality in the population in this chapter:

- for age groups under 1 year the *infant mortality rate* which is the number of deaths under one year per thousand live births in that year.
- for all other age groups the *age-specific death rate* which is the number of deaths for a given age or age group per thousand of population in that age or age group.
- *crude death rates* — the number of deaths per thousand of population.

In this chapter rates have been calculated using:

- deaths registered during the year in Tasmania
- population at 30 June.

There is little difference between Tasmanian age-specific and infant mortality rates and the Australian equivalents. The trend over the period 1960 to the early 1980s for Tasmanian rates has been much the same as that exhibited by Australian rates. At the higher order ages, Tasmanian age-specific death rates are marginally higher than Australian equivalents — the most marked differences being for ages 70 years and over.

In Table 3.2 rates are shown for deaths from all causes. Rates have been calculated using the average number of deaths over the five three year periods shown and relating them to the population at 30 June of the mid-year. Three year groupings have been used to help minimise fluctuations which occur in single year rates due to chance or abnormal circumstances. Rates shown illustrate the general improvement in mortality that has occurred over the period 1960 to the early 1980s. The 1960s saw little change in the general level of rates apart from some improvement in the infant mortality rate. However, the 1970s and early 1980s have been years of considerable improvement in mortality rates — particularly for higher order age groups and the infant mortality rate. Much of the improvement in rates for persons aged 55 years and over can be attributed to reductions in death rates due to diseases of the circulatory system. (This group of diseases includes what are commonly referred to as 'heart attacks' and 'strokes'.) Improvements in age-specific death rates have been most marked for ages 65-59 years and over. These improvements can be related largely to advances in the therapeutic drugs available for treatment of such diseases, increased community awareness of the dangers of heart related diseases and the availability of treatment. On the other hand, within the older age groups there has been a deterioration in death rates attributable to neoplasms ('cancers'). The deterioration in 'cancer' death rates is more marked for males than females.

The two 'cancers' accounting for most male deaths are malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs (commonly known as 'stomach' and 'bowel cancers') and malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs. (This latter category includes 'lung cancers'.)



**Table 3.2 Male and Female Age-Specific Death Rates:  
1960-1962 to 1980-1982**

Age group (years)	Males					Females				
	1960-62 (a)	1965-67 (a)	1970-72 (b)	1975-77 (b)	1980-82 (b)	1960-62 (a)	1965-67 (a)	1970-72 (b)	1975-77 (b)	1980-82 (b)
Under 1 (c)	20.3	17.7	17.8	16.3	12.2	17.3	14.5	11.5	13.4	8.7
1-4	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5
5-9	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
10-14	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
15-19	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.2	1.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
20-24	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.5
25-29	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.1	1.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4
30-34	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.4	1.4	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.5
35-39	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1
40-44	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.0	2.7	1.9	2.1	1.6
45-49	5.3	6.3	5.3	6.1	4.6	3.8	3.7	3.0	3.5	3.3
50-54	9.2	9.5	9.5	8.9	9.0	5.2	4.8	5.6	5.2	4.2
55-59	16.1	16.7	15.5	14.6	13.9	8.0	8.5	8.0	9.0	6.7
60-64	26.2	27.8	25.2	23.1	21.4	13.7	13.8	12.4	11.4	10.6
65-69	39.6	42.2	39.5	36.9	34.5	21.7	23.1	21.3	17.9	17.7
70-74	65.5	69.4	62.2	61.0	58.7	37.4	38.5	36.5	33.3	27.2
75-79	94.4	91.5	91.9	93.4	85.6	62.6	68.9	60.9	52.3	48.8
80 and over	169.9	175.8	164.0	173.7	157.2	136.0	150.1	135.5	130.0	115.0

(a) Population base: the 'as counted' census population.

(b) Population base: the estimated resident population.

(c) Infant mortality rate i.e. number of deaths under 1 year per thousand live births.

Crude death rates by cause for the top six causes of death for Tasmania and Australia are compared in Table 3.3. The causes listed account for around 75 per cent of deaths at both the Tasmanian and national levels. Tasmanian crude death rates from the two main causes — ischaemic heart disease and malignant neoplasms are higher in Tasmania than for Australia as a whole. The age - sex distribution of the population contribute to part of the differential — Tasmania has a slightly higher proportion of its population in the 65 and over age category compared with the Australian average. Also, masculinity of Tasmania's population aged 65 and over is marginally greater than the national average.

**Table 3.3 Top Six Causes of Death: Tasmania and Australia  
Rates (a) and Proportion of Deaths From All Causes  
1972-1982**

Particulars	Ischaemic heart disease	Malignant neoplasms	Cerebrovascular diseases	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	Other forms of heart disease	Motor vehicle accidents
<b>TASMANIA</b>						
1977 — Rate	226.5	149.4	89.1	39.0	37.8	29.6
Per cent	28.8	19.0	11.3	5.0	4.8	3.8
1978 — Rate	222.6	170.9	94.3	36.9	33.0	26.3
Per cent	28.1	21.6	11.9	4.7	4.2	3.3
1979 — Rate	206.1	142.9	80.6	38.3	44.2	22.3
Per cent	27.4	19.0	10.7	5.1	5.9	3.0
1980 — Rate	218.8	163.4	91.6	47.2	38.5	22.7
Per cent	27.3	20.4	11.4	5.9	4.8	2.8
1981 — Rate	223.8	166.2	85.5	47.5	35.1	27.2
Per cent	28.8	21.4	11.0	6.1	4.5	3.5
1982 — Rate	223.4	175.7	86.8	44.4	45.1	22.8
Per cent	28.0	22.0	10.9	5.6	5.7	2.9

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**Table 3.3 Top Six Causes of Death: Tasmania and Australia**  
**Rates (a) and Proportion of Deaths From All Causes 1972-1982 — Continued**

Particulars	Ischaemic heart disease	Malignant neoplasms	Cerebrovascular diseases	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	Other forms of heart disease	Motor vehicle accidents
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>						
1977 — Rate	230.2	149.6	102.4	30.3	30.2	26.2
Per cent	30.0	19.6	13.4	3.9	3.9	3.4
1978 — Rate	226.5	151.7	98.5	31.0	29.2	26.0
Per cent	30.0	20.1	13.0	4.1	3.9	3.4
1979 — Rate	213.1	152.5	92.5	29.5	38.7	24.6
Per cent	29.0	20.8	12.6	4.0	5.3	3.4
1980 — Rate	209.1	158.8	93.4	31.8	39.0	23.7
Per cent	28.2	21.5	12.6	4.3	5.3	3.2
1981 — Rate	210.5	159.5	91.9	31.6	36.6	22.0
Per cent	28.8	21.8	12.6	4.3	5.0	3.0
1982 — Rate	213.2	164.2	92.1	36.1	39.7	22.2
Per cent	28.2	21.7	12.2	4.8	5.3	2.9

(a) Number per hundred thousand of mean resident population (i.e. crude death rate).

Tables 3.4 and 3.5 are included to illustrate the main causes of death in the Tasmanian population. Within the infant age group (i.e. under one year) two causes are dominant — sudden death cause unknown (often referred to as 'cot deaths') and conditions relating to the early period of life e.g. respiratory problems.

Male age-specific death rates up to age group 25-34 are below two per thousand. Most deaths result from accidents, poisonings and violence. Two categories are particularly important — motor vehicle traffic accidents and, suicide and self-inflicted injuries. These two causes account for around 60 per cent of all male deaths in age groups 1-34 years. Female age-specific death rates for these age categories are about half the male rates. This is largely due to a far lower incidence of death from motor vehicle traffic accidents and, suicide and self-inflicted injuries.

Around the ages 35-40 for both males and females a change in the pattern of deaths takes place. For males, diseases of the circulatory system emerge as a main cause of death. Ischaemic and other forms of heart disease along with cerebrovascular disease (strokes) are the predominant causes of death for age groups 35 years and upwards.

Cancers also become increasingly important as a death cause. Two broad groups account for most deaths — malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs and peritoneum (these include 'stomach' and 'bowel' cancers) and malignant neoplasms of respiratory and intrathoracic organs (these include 'lung' cancers). For ages 65 and over, diseases associated with the respiratory system are also significant causes of death.

For women, while the predominant broad causes of death are similar, the pattern differs in that initially cancers are more important as causes of death than diseases associated with the circulatory system. Around a tenth of female deaths in the age group 35-64 are from breast cancer. From about the mid-60 ages, diseases of the circulatory system (heart and cerebrovascular diseases) become the predominant causes of death. Diseases of the respiratory system account for far fewer female than male deaths.

**Table 3.4 Deaths by Principal Cause in Age Groups 1982**

Age group (years)	Cause	Number	Death rate (a)	Proportion of	
				All deaths in age group	All deaths from that cause
MALES					
Under 1	Sudden death cause unknown .....	14	3.9	48.3	93.3
	Conditions originating in the perinatal period .....	12	3.3	41.4	100.0
	Congenital anomalies .....	3	0.8	10.3	30.0
	TOTAL	29	8.1	100.0	—

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Table 3.4 Deaths by Principal Cause in Age Groups 1982 — Continued

Age group (years)	Cause	Number	Death rate (a)	Proportion of	
				All deaths in age group	All deaths from that cause
MALES — Continued					
1-14	Accidents, poisonings and violence (external cause) .....	12	0.2	52.2	6.7
	Neoplasms .....	3	0.1	13.0	0.7
	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs .....	3	0.1	13.0	10.7
	Other .....	5	0.1	21.7	—
	TOTAL	23	0.4	100.0	—
15-24	Motor vehicle traffic accidents .....	23	0.6	46.0	33.3
	Suicide and self-inflicted injury .....	11	0.3	22.0	25.6
	Other accidents, poisonings and violence .....	11	0.3	22.0	16.4
	Other .....	5	0.1	10.0	—
TOTAL	50	1.3	100.0	—	
25-34	Motor vehicle traffic accidents .....	14	0.4	27.5	20.3
	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries .....	13	0.4	25.5	30.2
	Other accidents, poisonings and violence .....	11	0.3	21.6	16.4
	Other .....	13	0.4	25.5	—
TOTAL	51	1.5	100.0	—	
35-44	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	21	0.8	33.3	3.7
	Other .....	6	0.2	9.5	1.9
	Accidents, poisonings and violence .....	15	0.6	23.8	2.6
	Neoplasms .....	11	0.4	17.5	8.4
	Other .....	10	0.4	15.9	—
TOTAL	63	2.4	100.0	—	
45-54	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	40	1.9	33.1	7.1
	Other .....	11	0.5	9.1	3.4
	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs .....	16	0.8	13.2	11.3
	Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs and peritoneum .....	8	0.4	6.6	6.6
	Other .....	13	0.6	10.7	8.3
	Accidents, poisonings and violence .....	17	0.8	14.0	9.5
	Other .....	16	0.8	13.2	—
	TOTAL	121	5.8	100.0	—
	55-64	Diseases of the circulatory system —			
Ischaemic heart disease .....		119	6.3	36.4	21.2
Other forms of heart disease .....		10	0.5	3.1	13.2
Cerebrovascular disease .....		16	0.8	4.9	10.5
Other .....		7	0.4	2.1	7.4
Neoplasms —					
Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs and peritoneum .....		37	1.9	11.3	30.6
Malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs .....		37	1.9	11.3	26.1
Other .....		28	1.5	8.6	17.9
Diseases of the respiratory system .....		27	1.4	8.3	14.1
Accidents, poisonings and violence .....		20	1.1	6.1	11.2
Other .....		26	1.4	7.8	—
TOTAL		327	17.2	100.0	—
65-74		Diseases of the circulatory system —			
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	193	14.8	34.2	34.3
	Other forms of heart disease .....	22	1.7	3.9	28.9
	Cerebrovascular disease .....	49	3.8	8.7	32.2

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**Table 3.4 Deaths by Principal Cause in Age Groups  
1982 — Continued**

Age group (years)	Cause	Number	Death rate (a)	Proportion of	
				All deaths in age group	All deaths from that cause
MALES — Continued					
65-74 Cont.	Disease of arteries, arterioles and capillaries .....	18	1.4	3.2	29.5
	Other .....	14	1.1	2.5	42.5
	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs .....	49	3.8	8.7	34.5
	Malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs and peritoneum .....	41	3.1	7.3	33.9
	Malignant neoplasms of genitourinary organs .....	16	1.2	2.8	31.4
	Other .....	35	2.7	6.2	33.3
	Diseases of the respiratory system —				
	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and allied conditions .....	53	4.1	9.4	34.2
	Accidents, poisonings and violence .....	21	1.6	3.7	11.7
	Other .....	54	4.1	9.6	—
	TOTAL	565	43.4	100.0	—
75 and over	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	185	32.4	28.4	32.9
	Other forms of heart disease .....	41	7.2	6.3	53.9
	Cerebrovascular disease .....	77	13.5	11.8	50.7
	Diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries .....	36	6.3	5.5	5.9
	Other .....	14	2.5	2.1	42.4
	Neoplasms .....	119	20.9	18.3	28.4
	Diseases of the respiratory system .....	95	16.7	14.6	49.7
	Other .....	85	14.9	13.0	—
	TOTAL	652	114.3	100.0	—
FEMALES					
Under 1	Sudden death cause unknown .....	14	4.1	53.8	100.0
	Conditions originating in the perinatal period .....	6	1.8	23.1	100.0
	Congenital anomalies .....	3	0.9	11.5	33.3
	Other .....	3	0.9	11.5	—
	TOTAL	26	7.6	100.0	—
1-14	Accidents, poisonings and violence (external cause) .....	4	0.1	36.4	5.5
	Neoplasms .....	3	0.1	27.3	0.9
	Other .....	4	0.1	36.4	—
	TOTAL	11	0.2	100.0	—
15-24	Motor vehicle traffic accidents .....	6	0.2	30.0	20.7
	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries .....	3	0.1	15.0	18.8
	Other accidents, poisonings and violence .....	2	0.1	10.0	7.1
	Other .....	9	0.2	45.0	—
	TOTAL	20	0.7	100.0	—

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Table 3.4 Deaths by Principal Cause in Age Groups 1982 — Continued

Age group (years)	Cause	Number	Death rate (a)	Proportion of	
				All deaths in age group	All deaths from that cause
FEMALES — Continued					
25-34	Motor vehicle traffic accidents .....	4	0.1	36.4	13.8
	Other accidents, poisonings and violence .....	2	0.1	18.2	4.5
	Other .....	5	0.1	45.5	—
	TOTAL	11	0.3	100.0	—
35-44	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the female breast .....	7	0.3	20.0	9.6
	Other .....	7	0.3	20.0	2.6
	Diseases of the circulatory system .....	6	0.2	17.1	0.7
	Accidents, poisonings and violence .....	9	0.3	25.7	12.3
	Other .....	6	0.2	17.1	—
	TOTAL	35	1.4	100.0	—
45-54	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the female breast .....	12	0.6	13.8	16.4
	Malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs and peritoneum .....	7	0.3	8.0	5.8
	Malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs .....	7	0.3	8.0	18.9
	Other .....	16	0.8	18.4	14.0
	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	14	0.7	16.1	3.5
	Other .....	4	0.2	4.6	0.9
	Accidents, poisonings and violence .....	9	0.4	10.3	12.3
	Other .....	18	0.9	20.7	—
	TOTAL	87	4.3	100.0	—
55-64	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	36	1.8	19.4	9.0
	Other forms of heart disease .....	9	0.5	4.8	7.6
	Cerebrovascular disease .....	25	1.3	13.4	11.3
	Other .....	8	0.4	4.3	6.0
	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs and peritoneum .....	26	1.3	14.0	21.5
	Malignant neoplasms of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs .....	15	0.8	8.1	40.5
	Malignant neoplasms of the female breast .....	14	0.7	7.5	19.2
	Other neoplasms .....	20	1.0	10.8	17.5
	Other .....	33	1.7	17.7	—
	TOTAL	186	9.3	100.0	—
	65-74	Diseases of the circulatory system —			
Ischaemic heart disease .....		123	8.0	36.0	30.9
Cerebrovascular disease .....		43	2.8	12.6	19.5
Other .....		32	2.1	9.4	14.7
Neoplasms —					
Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs and peritoneum .....		37	2.4	10.8	30.5
Malignant neoplasms of the female breast .....		18	1.2	5.3	24.7
Malignant neoplasms of the genitourinary organs .....		12	0.8	3.5	27.9
Other .....		23	1.5	6.7	21.3
Diseases of the respiratory system .....		20	1.3	5.8	23.5
Other .....		34	2.2	9.9	—
TOTAL		342	22.3	100.0	—

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**Table 3.4 Deaths by Principal Cause in Age Groups  
1982 — Continued**

Age group (years)	Cause	Number	Death rate (a)	Proportion of	
				All deaths in age group	All deaths from that cause
FEMALES — Continued					
75 and over	Diseases of the circulatory system —				
	Ischaemic heart disease .....	223	22.8	26.8	56.0
	Other forms of heart disease .....	93	9.5	11.2	78.8
	Cerebrovascular disease .....	146	14.9	17.5	66.1
	Disease of arteries, arterioles and capillaries .....	54	5.5	6.5	88.5
	Other .....	19	1.9	2.3	48.7
	Neoplasms —				
	Malignant neoplasms of the digestive organs and peritoneum .....	49	5.0	5.9	40.5
	Other neoplasms .....	69	7.1	8.3	30.8
	Other .....	180	18.4	21.6	—
TOTAL		833	85.2	100.0	—

- (a) For deaths under 1 year the rate is the infant mortality rate i.e. the number of deaths per thousand live births, for all other ages the rates are age specific rates i.e. number of deaths per thousand of resident population in the age group at 30 June.

Figures 3.1 and 3.2 illustrate the general downward trend in age-specific and infant mortality rates for males and females since 1971. Age groups with very low age-specific death rates (0-4 to 39-44 inclusive) are not shown; generally the rates in these age groups were under two per thousand of population in the age group.



FIG 3.1 AGE SPECIFIC DEATH RATES SELECTED AGE GROUPS

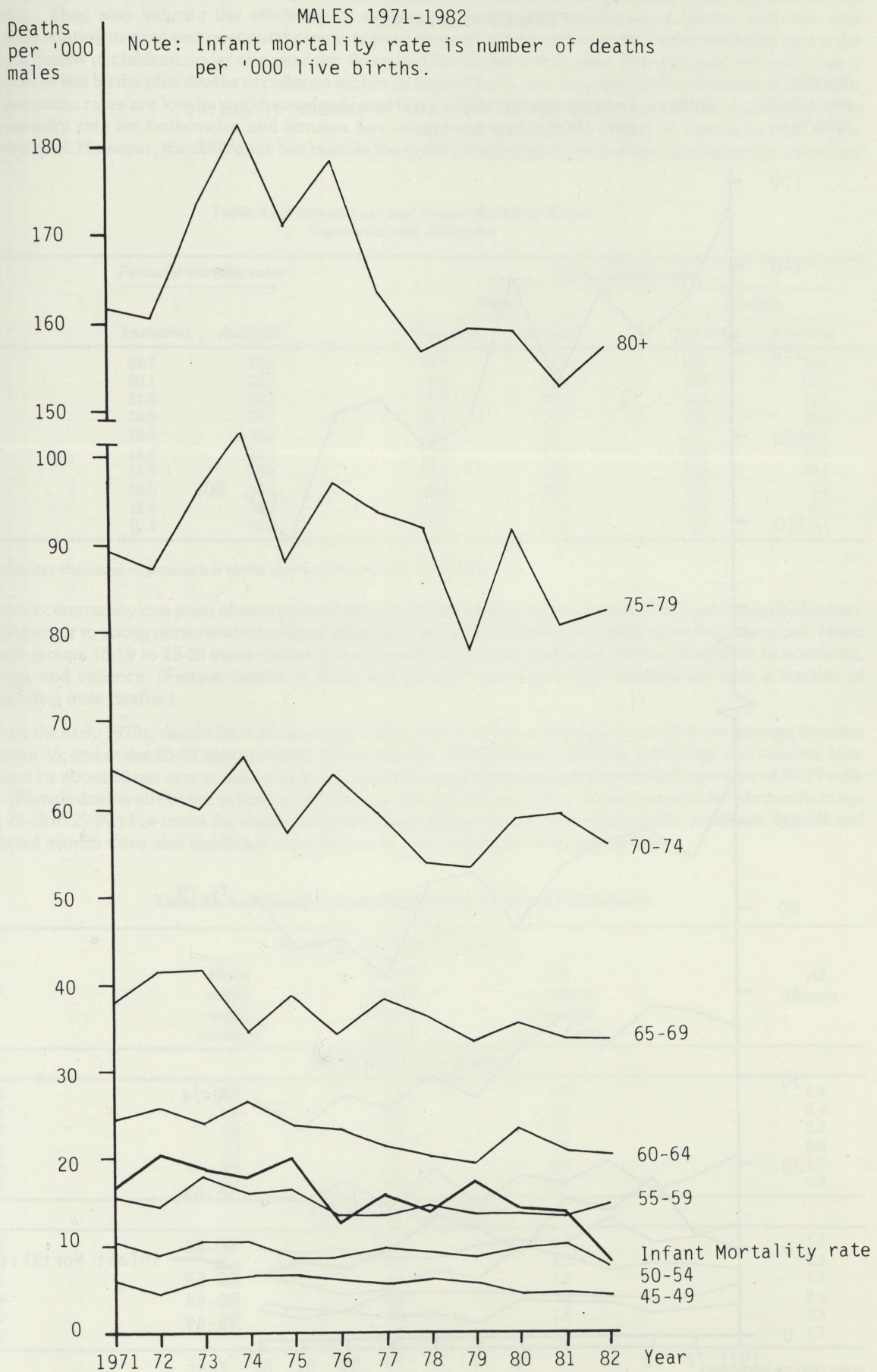
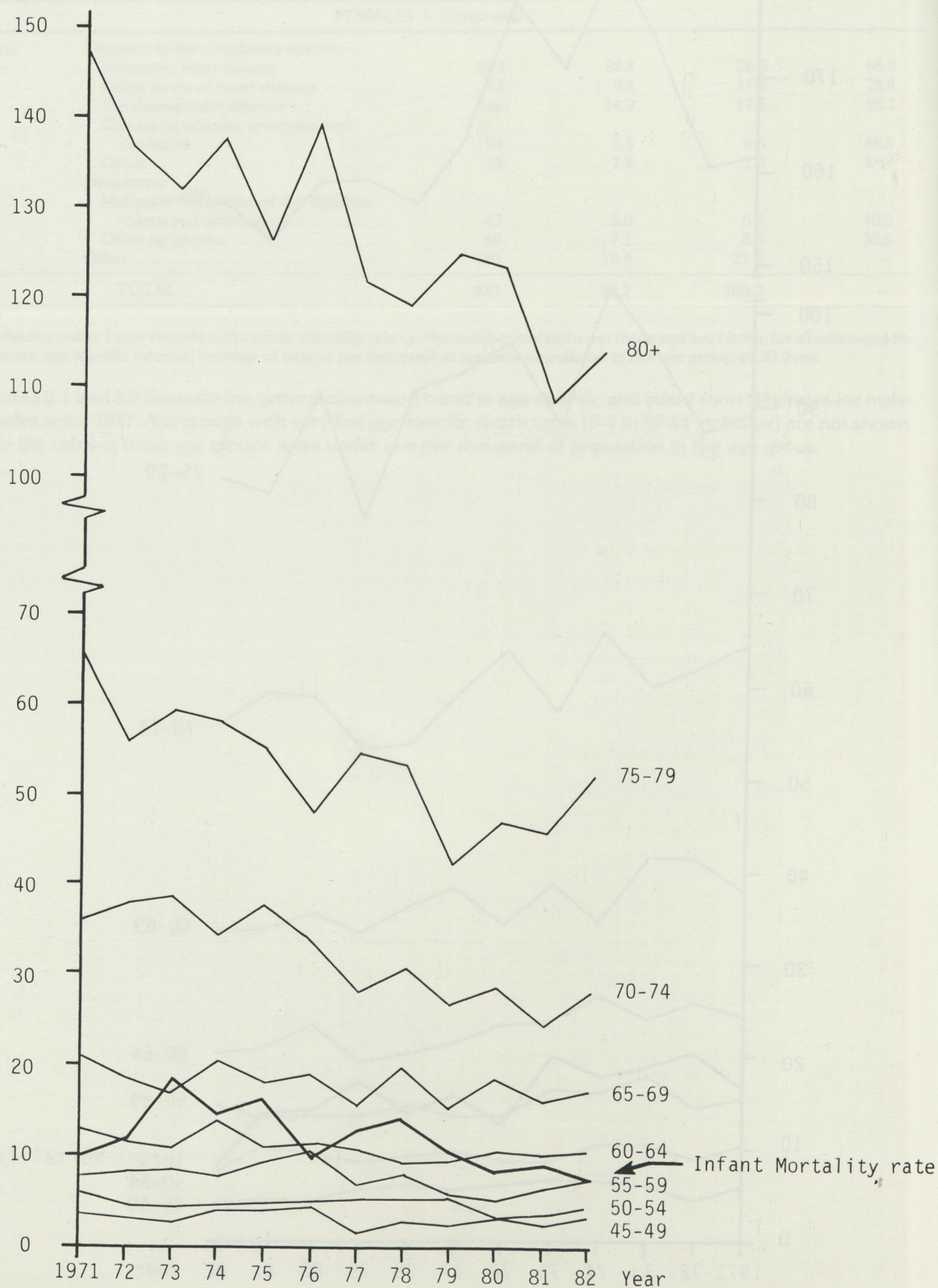




FIG 3.2 AGE SPECIFIC DEATH RATES SELECTED AGE GROUPS:  
FEMALES 1971-1982

Deaths  
per '000  
females

Note: Infant mortality rate is number of deaths  
per '000 live births





Infant and perinatal mortality rates are generally regarded as sensitive indicators of the health well being of the community. They also indicate the efficiency of delivery of services to mothers and babies, and how well information relating to ante and post natal care is spread throughout the community. Infant mortality rate is the number of deaths of children under one year per thousand live births in that year. The perinatal mortality rate is the number of still births plus deaths of children within 28 days of birth, per thousand births (live plus still), in that year. Tasmanian rates are low by world standards and fairly similar to national averages. Over recent years, the infant mortality rate for both males and females has tended to be marginally higher in Tasmania than at the Australian level. However, the difference has been in the order of only about one to three deaths per thousand live births.

**Table 3.5 Perinatal (a) and Infant Mortality Rates, Tasmania and Australia**

Year	Perinatal mortality rates		Infant mortality rates			
	Tasmania	Australia	Males		Females	
			Tasmania	Australia	Tasmania	Australia
1973	22.7	21.6	18.7	18.6	18.7	14.3
1974	20.1	21.5	18.4	18.4	14.8	13.7
1975	21.8	18.7	19.9	16.3	16.6	12.1
1976	18.9	18.7	12.7	15.1	10.2	12.4
1977	15.9	16.5	16.2	14.1	13.1	10.9
1978	18.8	16.1	14.0	13.7	14.6	10.6
1979	13.4	15.0	17.3	12.6	10.8	10.1
1980	15.0	14.1	14.4	11.9	8.9	9.4
1981	12.9	13.3	14.2	11.2	9.6	8.7
1982	10.2	13.4	8.1	11.6	7.6	9.1

(a) Deaths per thousand registered live births plus fetal deaths (i.e. still births).

From a community loss point of view preventable accidental deaths are of interest. This is particularly so where the deaths occur to young persons who have just entered or are about to enter the period of productive output. Males in the age groups 15-19 to 25-29 years inclusive seem particularly susceptible to deaths classifiable to accidents, poisonings and violence. (Female deaths in these age groups from this broad category are only a fraction of corresponding male deaths.)

Since the early 1970s, deaths from all causes to males aged 15-19 have averaged around 40 per annum; to males 20-24 about 35; and males 25-29 approximately 20 per annum. Deaths from accidents, poisonings and violence have accounted for about 85 per cent of deaths in 15-19 and 20-24 age groups and approximately 75 per cent of 25-29 male deaths. (Female deaths attributed to this broad category averaged around 50 to 70 per cent of all female deaths in age groups 15-19 to 25-29.) For males the single dominant cause of death was motor vehicle traffic accidents. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries were also significant contributors to male deaths in these age groups.

**Table 3.6 Age Specific Death Rates: Males 15-19 to 25-29 Inclusive**

Year	Accidents, poisonings and violence			All causes
	Motor vehicle traffic accidents	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	All accidents, poisonings and violence	
AGE GROUP 15-19 YEARS				
1972	1.4	0.1	1.9	2.4
1974	1.8	0.2	2.3	2.4
1976	1.4	0.2	2.0	2.2
1978	1.3	0.1	1.6	2.0
1980	0.9	0.1	1.4	1.7
1982	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.9
AGE GROUP 20-24 YEARS				
1972	1.1	0.3	1.7	1.7
1974	1.6	0.1	2.2	2.5
1976	0.8	0.3	1.5	1.7
1978	1.2	0.3	1.8	2.2
1980	0.8	0.2	1.3	1.5
1982	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.7

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Table 3.6 Age Specific Death Rates: Males 15-19 to 25-29 Inclusive — Continued

Year	Accidents, poisonings and violence			All causes
	Motor vehicle traffic accidents	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	All accidents, poisonings and violence	
AGE GROUP 25-29 YEARS				
1972	0.7	0.5	1.4	1.7
1974	0.4	0.1	1.0	1.2
1976	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.1
1978	0.5	0.2	1.2	1.4
1980	0.5	0.2	1.3	1.4
1982	0.5	0.5	1.1	1.4

Male deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injury outnumber female deaths from the same cause by about three to one.

Table 3.7 Deaths from Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries

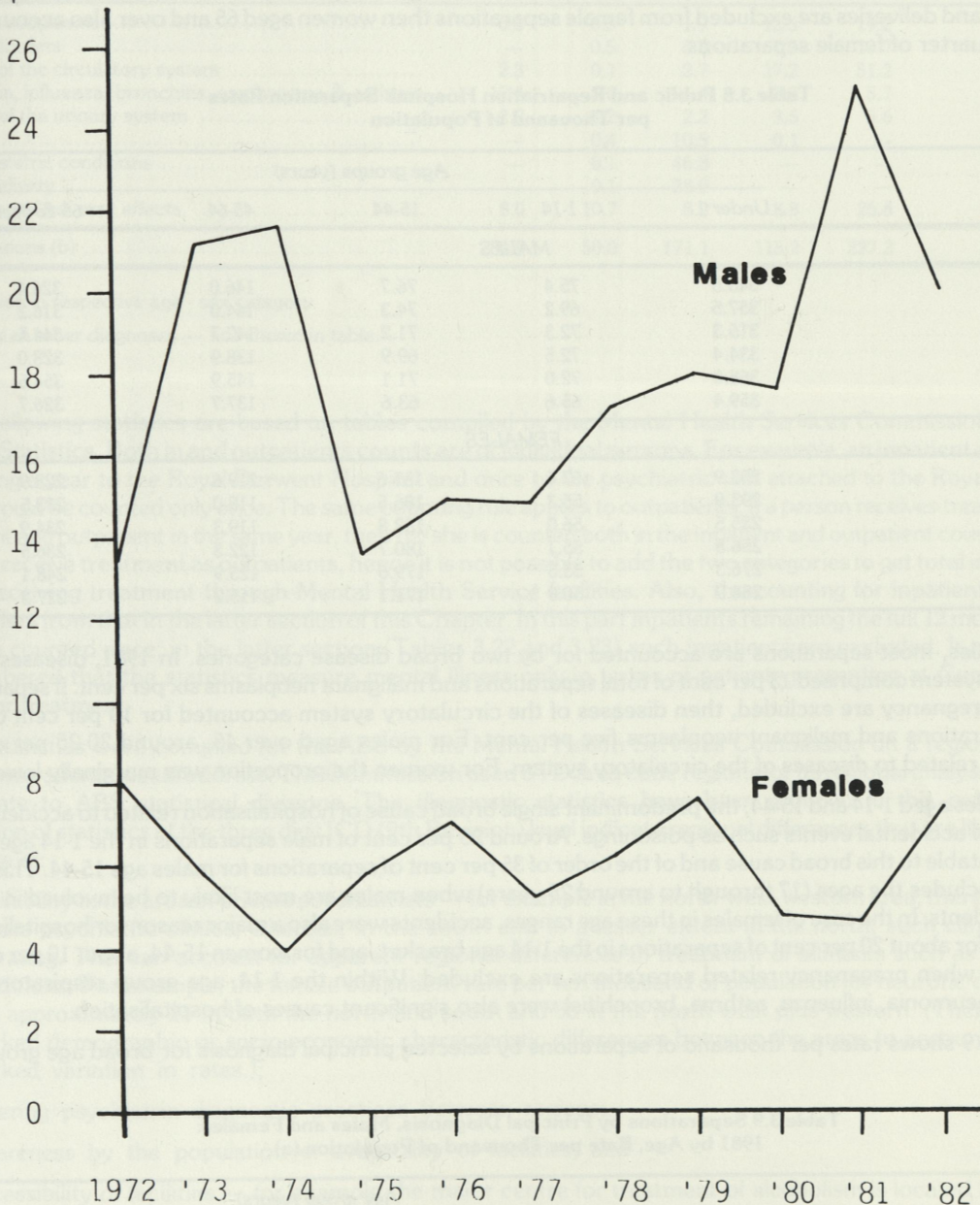
Year	Males			All ages	Females			All ages
	Selected age groups				Selected age groups			
	15-29	30-39	40-49		15-29	30-39	40-49	
1972	7	7	6	27	7	1	2	16
1973	7	4	16	43	3	4	1	12
1974	8	9	8	44	1	1	2	8
1975	7	3	5	28	2	1	4	12
1976	13	3	3	31	—	1	7	15
1977	7	4	7	31	1	—	2	11
1978	11	9	3	36	2	3	1	13
1979	11	7	8	38	6	3	—	16
1980	14	5	8	37	1	—	4	10
1981	15	7	10	53	2	—	2	10
1982	20	4	7	43	4	2	1	16

In Fig. 3.3 deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injuries are shown as crude rates per hundred thousand of mean male and mean female population. The crude death rate for males from suicide and self-inflicted injuries suggests a general upward trend in death rates from this broad cause. The same sort of general upward trend is not apparent for females.



Fig 3.3 MALE AND FEMALE DEATHS FROM SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES PER HUNDRED THOUSAND OF MEAN MALE AND MEAN FEMALE POPULATION

Rate per hundred thousand of mean population



#### Morbidity

For several years the ABS, in conjunction with Department of Health Services (DHS), collected from public hospitals details about inpatients. The point of collection was 'separation': this could be by discharge from the hospital; transfer to another hospital or medical institution for continuation of care; or by death of the patient. The statistical information was episode based i.e. related to the period from formal admission to separation. Statistics included principal condition treated (based on final diagnosis), principal operation performed, length of stay, age and sex of inpatient, marital status, and birthplace of patient. Similar data were also obtained from the Repatriation Hospital. Private hospitals were outside the coverage of the collection. The final year of collection was 1981.

As indicated above, the statistics are episode based and do not equate with individual persons being treated, e.g. if a person had more than one formal admission and discharge within a year then each period between admission and discharge would be counted in the hospital morbidity statistics. Secondly, the coverage excluded



private hospitals which handle a considerable volume of elective type operations. Also, as an indicator of community health, it needs to be remembered that hospital morbidity statistics relate only to those persons whose illness or symptoms are sufficiently serious to warrant hospitalisation.

A point to note relating to separation rates is the high female separation rate for age group 15-44 relative to the male rate. This simply reflects separations for women entering hospital to give birth to babies, or for treatment of conditions associated with pregnancy.

Around 25 per cent of all male separations were for men aged 65 years and over. If conditions relating to pregnancy and deliveries are excluded from female separations then women aged 65 and over also accounted for around a quarter of female separations.

**Table 3.8 Public and Repatriation Hospital: Separation Rates per Thousand of Population**

Year	Age groups (years)				
	Under 1	1-14	15-44	45-64	65 & over
<b>MALES</b>					
1976	345.5	75.4	76.7	146.0	326.4
1977	357.5	69.2	74.3	144.0	316.2
1978	315.3	72.3	71.2	147.7	344.4
1979	334.4	72.5	69.9	138.9	328.0
1980	368.0	72.0	71.1	145.9	354.5
1981	359.4	65.6	63.6	137.7	326.7
<b>FEMALES</b>					
1976	253.9	57.6	185.6	119.6	228.9
1977	293.9	55.3	186.5	118.0	233.5
1978	235.5	56.0	183.8	119.3	234.9
1979	256.8	55.1	180.7	122.3	236.5
1980	276.3	53.5	179.6	125.9	248.1
1981	284.9	50.0	171.1	115.2	227.3

For males, most separations are accounted for by two broad disease categories. In 1981, diseases of the circulatory system comprised 13 per cent of total separations and malignant neoplasms six per cent. If separations related to pregnancy are excluded, then diseases of the circulatory system accounted for 10 per cent of 1981 female separations and malignant neoplasms five per cent. For males aged over 45, around 20-25 per cent of separations related to diseases of the circulatory system. For women the proportion was marginally lower.

For males aged 1-14 and 15-44, the predominant single broad cause of hospitalisation related to accidents and the effects of accidental events such as poisonings. Around 25 per cent of male separations in the 1-14 age group were attributable to this broad cause and of the order of 35 per cent of separations for males age 15-44. This latter age range includes the ages (17 through to around 25 years) when males are most likely to be involved in motor vehicle accidents. In the case of females in these age ranges, accidents were also a major reason for hospitalisation, accounting for about 20 per cent of separations in the 1-14 age bracket, and for women 15-44, about 10 per cent of separations when pregnancy related separations are excluded. Within the 1-14, age group respiratory type diseases (pneumonia, influenza, asthma, bronchitis) were also significant causes of hospitalisation.

Table 3.9 shows rates per thousand of separations by selected principal diagnosis for broad age groups.

**Table 3.9 Separations by Principal Diagnosis, Males and Females: 1981 by Age, Rate per Thousand of Population (a)**

Selected principal diagnoses	Age group (years)					Total
	Under 1	1-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	
MALES						
Malignant neoplasms .....	0.8	0.2	1.0	12.5	42.5	6.5
Mental disorders .....	—	0.6	4.8	8.4	8.2	4.6
Diseases of the circulatory system .....	2.2	0.3	3.0	29.7	77.6	13.7
Pneumonia, influenza, bronchitis, emphysema & asthma .....	20.1	7.0	1.2	3.8	12.3	4.4
Diseases of the urinary system .....	2.2	1.0	1.2	4.5	11.2	2.7
Hernia of the abdominal cavity .....	8.9	1.0	1.1	4.0	9.0	2.4
Accidents and adverse effects .....	11.7	16.8	22.3	12.5	19.8	18.7
All separations (b)	359.4	65.6	63.6	137.7	326.7	105.6

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Table 3.9 Separations by Principal Diagnosis  
Males and Females: 1981 by Age, Rate per Thousand of Population (a) — Continued

Selected principal diagnoses	Age group (years)					Total
	Under 1	1-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	
FEMALES						
Malignant neoplasms .....	0.3	0.3	1.9	12.5	19.2	5.4
Mental disorders .....	—	0.5	5.5	7.7	10.7	5.2
Diseases of the circulatory system .....	2.3	0.1	2.7	17.2	51.2	10.2
Pneumonia, influenza, bronchitis, emphysema & asthma .....	17.4	5.0	1.4	3.3	5.7	3.4
Diseases of the urinary system .....	2.3	1.2	2.2	3.5	5.6	2.6
Abortion .....	—	0.4	10.5	0.1	—	4.8
Direct obstetric conditions .....	—	0.1	46.8	—	—	21.0
Normal delivery .....	—	0.1	28.9	—	—	13.0
Accidents and adverse effects .....	8.0	10.7	8.2	8.8	25.8	10.9
All separations (b) .....	284.9	50.0	171.1	115.2	227.3	140.3

(a) Population in respective age - sex category

(b) Includes all other diagnoses — not shown in table.

The following statistics are based on tables compiled by the Mental Health Services Commission for the Bureau of Statistics. Both in and outpatients counts are of individual persons. For example, an inpatient admitted twice during a year to the Royal Derwent Hospital and once to the psychiatric unit attached to the Royal Hobart Hospital would be counted only once. The same counting rule applies to outpatients. If a person receives treatment as an inpatient and outpatient in the same year, then he/she is counted both in the inpatient and outpatient counts. Most inpatients receive treatment as outpatients, hence it is not possible to add the two categories to get total individual persons receiving treatment through Mental Health Service facilities. Also, the counting for inpatients in this section differs from that in the latter section of this Chapter. In this part inpatients remaining the full 12 months in a facility are counted once; in the latter section (Tables 3.22 and 3.23) such inpatients are excluded. It must also be remembered that the statistics measure mental illness only in terms of patients presenting at Commission facilities for treatment.

The statistics were compiled for the ABS by the Mental Health Services Commission on a regional basis according to patients' usual address. The Commission used STD area code regions for its regional analysis. These approximate to ABS statistical divisions. The diagnostic statistics have been grouped in this publication. Examination of statistics at the three digit ICD (9th Revision) level indicate regional differences that are likely to be a reflection of:

- (i) Availability in the area of private psychiatrists — for example in the north-west-western area, there were no private psychiatric clinics, whereas, in the south and to a lesser extent in the north, such clinics were operating. This can account for apparent regional differences in treatment of ailments such as neurotic conditions. For example, the female outpatient rate per ten thousand of population for neurotic disorders was approximately 25 in both the north and south and 55 in the north-west plus western. (There are no marked demographic or socio-economic characteristic differences between the areas to account for this marked variation in rates.);
- (ii) Differing psychiatric diagnostic practices between regions;
- (iii) Awareness by the population of availability of facilities; and
- (iv) Accessibility of facilities — for example the major centre for treatment of alcoholism is located in Urban Hobart. The male outpatient rate per ten thousand of population being treated for alcoholic dependence syndrome was 44.4 in the south compared to only 21.8 in the north and 16.1 in the north-west-western area. A similar table is not included for inpatients since the presence of the major long-term residential treatment centre, which is the normal address for many of the long-term patients, would distort regional inpatient rates. Also, most if not all short-term inpatients present as outpatients for treatment. Hence the outpatient rates give a guide to the general incidence of mental ailments in the community being treated through Commission facilities.

Data for 1982-83 and 1983-84 indicate that around 55 per cent of inpatients are male and about 51 per cent of outpatients are male. A major reason for the higher proportion of males is related to alcohol dependency — for both in and outpatients, males outnumber females by a factor of around six or seven to one. (About 20 to 25 per cent of males receiving treatment are being treated for alcoholic dependence syndrome.)

The most noticeable difference in the percentage age distribution of patients relates to the 65 and over age



group. The proportion of female inpatients and outpatients in this age category is significantly higher than for males. This largely reflects the age - sex distribution of the population; females aged 65 and over outnumber men in the same age group by about 35 per cent.

**Table 3.10 Proportion of Individual Inpatients and Outpatients by Age and Sex, 1982-83 and 1983-84 (Per Cent)**

Age group (years)	1982-83		1983-84	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
<b>INPATIENTS</b>				
0-9	5.6	5.3	4.2	3.8
10-19	8.2	7.9	8.1	7.9
20-29	19.9	17.2	21.1	17.8
30-39	18.8	16.3	20.8	17.9
40-49	16.2	13.1	15.8	13.7
50-59	14.9	14.6	13.9	13.8
60-64	4.8	6.6	5.1	6.8
65 and over	11.5	18.9	11.0	18.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>OUTPATIENTS</b>				
0-9	9.4	5.6	10.0	6.5
10-19	16.5	10.0	16.8	15.6
20-29	20.1	17.0	21.6	16.3
30-39	17.3	18.2	18.0	18.5
40-49	13.3	13.1	12.9	13.0
50-59	12.3	14.5	11.1	13.5
60-64	4.2	6.0	3.8	5.7
65 and over	7.0	11.9	5.9	11.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 3.11 shows outpatient rates by psychiatric diagnosis on a regional basis. The rates give a broad indication of types of mental illness being treated. Readers should refer to the section preceding Table 3.10 which indicates why regional rates may differ considerably.

**Table 3.11 Individual Outpatient (a) by Treatment Diagnosis and Sex by STD Regions (b), 1982-83 (Rate per ten thousand of male or female population at 31 December 1982)**

ICD Code	Description	STD area 002 (South)		STD area 003 (North)		STD area 004 (North-West & Western)	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
V701, V702, V704	Psychiatric examination requested by authority or for medicolegal reasons (includes dyssocial behaviour) .....	7.8	11.0	13.4	17.4	7.4	3.7
290, 293, 294	Senile, pre-senile and other organic psychotic conditions .....	1.0	2.0	0.2	1.3	2.4	4.0
291, 292	Alcoholic and drug psychoses .....	0.5	0.8	1.2	0.2	0.9	—
295	Schizophrenic psychoses .....	14.8	11.6	10.5	12.3	9.8	15.8
296	Affective psychoses .....	6.1	10.9	9.1	18.9	10.1	17.3
297, 298, 299	Paranoid, childhood origin specific and other non-organic psychoses .....	0.9	2.3	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.8
303, 304, 305	Alcohol and drug dependence and non-dependence abuse .....	50.1	10.1	29.6	4.1	17.8	1.5
313, 314, 315	Emotional disturbance, hyperkinetic syndrome of childhood and adolescence and delays in development .....	10.8	7.3	2.7	1.0	1.1	0.4
300, 301	Neurotic and personality disorders .....	18.5	30.9	22.2	27.4	33.7	41.5
302, 306-312, 316	Other neurotic, personality and non-psychotic mental disorders .....	33.6	32.5	28.8	24.3	12.4	27.2
317, 318, 319	Mental retardation .....	6.0	7.7	9.6	9.7	4.0	2.4
345	Epilepsy .....	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.3	2.9	1.1
330, 333, 343, 346-348, 758	Other diseases of nervous system requiring psychiatric care — includes migraine, Huntington's Chorea, chromosomal abnormalities .....	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	—

(a) For approximately six per cent of outpatients an address of usual residence was not recorded hence rates are marginally understated.

(b) STD code areas approximate ABS statistical divisions: 002 approximates Hobart plus Southern; 003 to Northern; and 004 to Mersey-Lyell.



For male inpatients three broad categories of psychiatric causes account for almost 65 per cent of inpatients — alcohol and drug dependency, mental retardation and schizophrenic psychoses. For women alcohol and drug dependency account for only around six per cent of inpatients compared with around 32 per cent for males. Mental retardation is the main reason for females being treated as inpatients, the next major reason being schizophrenic psychoses. This single ICD cause accounted for almost 13 per cent of both male and female inpatients. In the case of outpatients, most males are treated for alcohol and drug dependency, while most women are diagnosed as suffering from neurotic and personality disorders.

**Table 3.12 Proportion of Inpatients and Outpatients by ICD (9th Revision), Diagnosis 1982-83 (Per Cent)**

ICD Code	Description	Inpatients		Outpatients	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
V701, V702, V704	Psychiatric examination requested by authority or for medicolegal reasons (includes dyssocial behaviour) .....	1.7	3.1	6.9	8.8
290, 293, 294	Senile, pre-senile and other organic psychotic conditions ...	5.9	8.9	0.7	1.7
291, 292	Alcoholic and drug psychoses .....	3.9	1.4	0.6	0.3
295	Schizophrenic psychoses .....	12.7	12.7	9.2	10.3
296	Affective psychoses .....	5.9	10.7	5.8	11.8
297, 298, 299	Paranoid, childhood origin specific and other non-organic psychoses .....	1.8	3.8	0.9	1.8
303, 304, 305	Alcohol and drug dependence and non-dependence abuse	31.6	5.9	27.0	7.9
313, 314, 315	Emotional disturbance, hyperkinetic syndrome of childhood and adolescence and delays in development .....	0.5	0.4	9.3	5.9
300, 301	Neurotic and personality disorders .....	7.1	13.3	17.5	26.2
302, 306-312, 316	Other neurotic, personality and non-psychotic mental disorders .....	8.1	18.1	15.3	18.8
317, 318, 319	Mental retardation .....	19.4	21.0	4.9	5.5
345	Epilepsy .....	0.8	0.6	0.9	—
330, 333, 343	Other diseases of nervous system requiring psychiatric care				
346-348, 758	— includes migraine, Huntington's Chorea, chromosomal abnormalities .....	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.9
TOTAL		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

### Health Status

The principal source of data about the health status, as perceived by persons themselves, is the 1977-78 ABS Australian Health Survey. This survey was conducted by the Bureau over the 1977-78 financial year. It was a random population survey in which persons in selected private dwellings were asked questions about their health and health-related matters. (Private dwelling for purpose of the survey covered houses, home units, flats, caravan parks and any other structure used as a private residence.) Topics covered included consultations with persons in the health field (e.g. doctors, chemists, opticians and optometrists, physiotherapists), chronic illnesses, reduced activity due to illness, hospital episodes and recent illnesses. Demographic data such as age and sex were also obtained and used in the cross-classification of the health data.

The 1977-78 survey indicated that Tasmanian rates of consulting health professionals (excluding doctors and dentists) was generally higher than the Australian average. Generally the Tasmanian consultation rates were either the highest of all states and territories or only exceeded by one or two of them. This of course does not mean that the Tasmanian population is less healthy — it may merely indicate a greater propensity to make use of professional health services. Part of the reason may be simply that such services are more accessible in Tasmania than elsewhere in Australia.

**Table 3.13 Consultations with Health Professionals Other than Doctors and Dentists in the Four Weeks Before Interview, 1977-78 (Rate per '000 of Population)**

Sex	Chemist		Optician, optometrist		Physiotherapist	
	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust
Males	28.0	21.3	17.8	13.0	12.9	11.7
Females	33.2	29.5	18.9	18.2	7.8	11.3
Persons	30.6	26.6	18.3	15.6	10.3	11.5

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**Table 3.13 Consultations with Health Professionals Other than Doctors and Dentists  
in the Four Weeks Before Interview, 1977-78 — Continued**  
(Rate per '000 of Population)

Sex	District, home or community nurse		Chiropodist		Persons under			
					15 years consulting with school or community nurse		5 years consulting with baby health centre nurse	
	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust
Males	10.4	6.6	7.7	4.5	47.6	23.3	180.7	158.3
Females	29.7	8.6	17.9	14.1	33.7	26.9	238.2	146.6
Persons	20.1	7.6	12.8	9.3	40.8	25.0	208.7	152.6

In the case of doctor consultations, 75 per cent of males in Tasmania reported that they had consulted a doctor in the 12 months prior to the survey interview. For females the proportion was 83 per cent. In the three months prior to survey, 42 per cent of males consulted a doctor whereas 53 per cent of women had. Australian proportions were only fractionally different from those for Tasmania.

**Table 3.14 Consultations with Doctors; Period Since Last Consultation;  
Rate per Thousand of Population and Proportions, Health Survey, 1977-78**

Period since last doctor consultation	Tasmania		Australia	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
<i>Rate per '000 of population</i>				
2 weeks ago or less	159	199	151	203
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	258	329	270	325
Total up to 3 months	417	528	421	529
More than 3 months to 6 months	156	158	168	165
More than 6 months to 12 months	177	142	160	128
Total up to 12 months	751	829	749	822
More than 12 months	247	168	247	173
TOTAL (a)	1000	1000	1000	1000
<i>Proportion (Per Cent)</i>				
2 weeks ago or less	15.9	19.9	15.1	20.3
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	25.8	32.9	27.0	32.5
Total up to 3 months	41.7	52.8	42.1	52.9
More than 3 months to 6 months	15.6	15.8	16.8	16.5
More than 6 months to 12 months	17.7	14.2	16.0	12.8
Total up to 12 months	75.1	82.9	74.9	82.2
More than 12 months	24.7	16.8	24.7	17.3
TOTAL (a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes males and females who did not state when they last consulted a doctor or who claimed they had never consulted a doctor.

Australian data showed that persons in the older ages are more likely to have consulted a doctor than younger persons. Thirty per cent of persons over 65 consulted a doctor in the two weeks leading up to survey compared with 21 per cent in age groups under 5 and 45-64 years. In the three month period up to survey, 70 per cent of 65 and over consulted a doctor compared with 53 per cent of persons aged under 5 and 45-64. Only 34 per cent of persons aged 5-14 had consulted a doctor in the period three months prior to survey.

The health survey, as a general indicator of well-being, also sought information about days of reduced activity and working days lost due to ill-health in the two week period before survey.



**Table 3.15 Persons Aged Two Years or More:  
Days of Reduced Activity in Two Weeks Before Interview: Persons 1977-78**

Days of reduced activity	Tasmania		Australia	
	Persons ('000)	Per Cent	Persons ('000)	Per Cent
None	340.7	87.3	11 455.9	85.9
1	9.2	2.4	414.7	3.1
2-3	14.5	3.7	538.8	4.0
4-14	25.9	6.6	896.0	6.7
TOTAL (a)	390.4	100.0	13 328.9	100.0

(a) Includes persons who did not state whether they had any days of reduced activity.

**Table 3.16 Persons Aged 15 Years or More:  
Days of Bed Disability in the Two Weeks Before Interview: Persons 1977-78**

Days of reduced activity	Tasmania		Australia	
	Persons ('000)	Per Cent	Persons ('000)	Per Cent
None	372.4	95.4	12 447.5	93.4
1	7.0	1.8	354.7	2.7
2-3	7.2	1.8	310.7	2.3
4-14	3.8	0.7	203.5	1.5
TOTAL (a)	390.4	100.0	13 328.9	100.0

(a) Includes persons who did not state whether they had any bed disability days.

Persons aged 65 or more experienced significantly higher rates of reduced activity than other age groups. The incidence of long periods (i.e. 8-14 days out of the two week reference period) were also considerably higher. Some 82 per cent of the 65 and over suffered from reduced activity for periods of 8-14 days compared with 54 per cent in the 45-64 age bracket and 34 per cent in the age range 25-44 years.

Forty-four per cent of Tasmanian males reported that they had a chronic condition in the 1977-78 survey compared with 50 per cent of females. At the Australian level 43 per cent of males and 47 per cent of females stated they suffered from a chronic condition. The average number of chronic conditions per person with one was almost two.

Over the 12 month period before interview thirteen per cent of the Tasmanian population reported having had an episode in hospital. Approximately 10 per cent of males had a hospital episode and 17 per cent of females — the higher proportion for women is largely related to having babies. The average number of episodes per person reporting an episode was 1.3. The average stay per person reporting a hospital episode was 9.8 days for males and 11.9 days for females. Australian figures show that the average days stay per person with one or more episodes was highest for persons aged 65 years or more — almost 20 days compared with an average stay for all age groups of 10 days.

### Provision of Health Services

#### Hospital, Nursing Home and Mental Health Service Facilities Usage

Based on Department of Health Service annual report statistics, Tasmanian public hospitals achieve a bed occupancy rate of around 65 to 67 per cent.

**Table 3.17 Selected Statistics, Public Hospitals Year Ended 30 June**

Year ended 30 June	Average daily number of patients		Average bed occupancy (per cent)
	No.	Per thousand of mean population	
1979	1467	3.5	65.5
1980	1516	3.6	67.9
1981	1419	3.3	63.8
1982	1358	3.2	65.8
1983	1364	3.2	66.6

Source: Tasmanian Director-General of Health Services Annual Report.



On a regional basis the Northern Statistical Division is the best endowed part of Tasmania in terms of number of public hospital beds per thousand of population. The region has 74 per cent more general beds per thousand of population than the southern part of Tasmania and 29 per cent more general beds per thousand of population than the Mersey-Lyell region.

**Table 3.18 Number of Public Hospital Beds per Thousand of Population (a) by Region 30 June 1983**

Statistical Division or sub-division	Number of beds per thousand of population	
	General	Maternity
Hobart (b) .....	3.1	0.4
Southern .....	2.1	0.3
Total Hobart and Southern .....	3.1	0.4
Northern —		
Tamar .....	5.4	0.6
North Eastern .....	5.9	0.4
Total .....	5.4	0.6
Mersey-Lyell —		
North Western .....	4.7	0.7
Western .....	4.9	0.4
Total .....	4.7	0.7
<b>TASMANIA</b> .....	<b>4.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>

(a) Includes district nursing centre hospital beds.

(b) Includes Peacock Convalescent Centre and mothercraft nursing beds.

Source: Tasmanian Director-General of Health Services Annual Report.

The following table is taken from the Annual Report of the Commonwealth Director-General of Health. Public hospitals in this table include Veterans' Affairs hospitals (repatriation hospitals). Otherwise the coverage is the same as for Table 3.18. Apart from Queensland, Tasmania has the highest number of hospital beds per thousand of population. When comparing the bed rates per thousand of population, differences in health service practices between States need to be kept in mind. For example, New South Wales and Queensland treat a considerable number of acute psychiatric patients in public hospitals, whereas in Tasmania such patients are treated in hospitals or units run by The Mental Health Services Commission and are not within the scope of Tables 3.19 and 3.20.

In terms of hospital beds, Tasmania has a low proportion of approved hospital beds in the private sector — 18.1 per cent compared to a national proportion of 21.4 per cent. The New South Wales proportion was only marginally more at 18.2 per cent.

**Table 3.19 Approved Hospitals and Beds Under the Insurance Act — States and Territories 30 June 1983 (a)**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Aust
Approved hospitals (no.) —									
Public	247	170	143	83	95	23	6	4	771
Private	107	119	46	37	23	8	—	1	341
Total	354	289	189	120	118	31	6	5	1 112
Beds in (no.) —									
Public hospitals	28 101	15 456	13 115	6 513	6 859	2 351	790	1 044	74 229
Private hospitals	6 262	5 629	3 646	2 143	1 882	519	—	51	20 132
Total	34 363	21 085	16 761	8 656	8 741	2 870	790	1 095	94 361
Beds per thousand population	6.4	5.2	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.6	5.9	4.7	6.2

(a) Includes Veterans' Affairs hospitals and the Commonwealth hospital, Woomera, South Australia.

Source: Annual Report of the Commonwealth Director-General of Health, 1982-83.

An area of growing interest to health and social planners is care and accommodation for the aged. (Generally this is taken to be persons aged 60 or 65 years and over.) The population in this age category is increasing both numerically and as a proportion of the total population. Additionally, there is an increasing number of persons in the



'very old' age groups (85 years and over). Persons in these higher age groups are more frequent users of medical and hospital services. Generally their stays in hospital are considerably longer than for patients in the younger age groups.

Table 3.20 shows the distribution by local government area of accommodation, in terms of bed spaces, for the aged. Fifty-one per cent of bed spaces were located in the Hobart Statistical Division at 31 January 1983 — around 95 per cent of it being within Urban Hobart. (Hobart Statistical Division contained 28 per cent of the State's population age 60 and over at 30 June 1981.) The proportion of aged accommodation and aged in other regions was: Northern 28 per cent of accommodation and 30 per cent of the aged; Mersey-Lyell 19 per cent and 22 per cent; Southern two per cent and seven per cent. On a State basis there were approximately 100 bed spaces per thousand of population aged 60 and over.

**Table 3.20 Existing Aged Persons Accommodation by Local Government Area, January 1983**

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Aged population (a)	Self- contained beds (b)	Hostel beds	Nursing beds	Total	Accommodation per 1 000 aged
Hobart (H)	9 579	366	120	965	1 451	151
Glenorchy (H)	6 225	586	74	81	741	119
Clarence (H)	4 962	276	196	125	597	120
Brighton (H)(S)	428	63	—	—	63	147
Kingborough (H)(S)	2 062	48	16	74	138	67
New Norfolk (H)(S)	1 252	66	—	28	94	75
Sorell (H)(S)	810	12	—	—	12	15
Bothwell (S)	135	3	—	—	3	22
Bruny (S)	98	—	—	—	—	—
Esperance (S)	448	4	—	—	4	9
Glamorgan (S)	313	—	—	24	24	77
Green Ponds (S)	136	—	—	—	—	—
Hamilton (S)	281	—	—	—	—	—
Huon (S)	655	5	10	24	39	60
Oatlands (S)	332	9	—	—	9	27
Port Cygnet (S)	324	9	—	—	9	28
Richmond (S)	289	8	—	—	8	28
Spring Bay (S)	281	—	—	—	—	—
Tasman (S)	193	4	—	—	4	21
<b>HOBART STAT DIV</b>	<b>24 510</b>	<b>1 417</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>1 273</b>	<b>3 096</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>SOUTHERN STAT DIV</b>	<b>4 300</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>23</b>
Launceston	7 052	495	83	295	873	124
Beaconsfield	1 876	28	—	34	62	33
Deloraine	849	31	—	23	54	64
Evandale	247	—	—	—	—	—
George Town	541	50	—	50	100	185
Lilydale	947	20	—	—	20	21
Longford	901	22	3	68	93	103
St Leonards	2 354	224	93	65	382	162
Westbury	951	15	—	—	15	16
<b>Tamar Stat Div</b>	<b>15 720</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>1 599</b>	<b>102</b>
Campbell Town	252	12	—	8	20	79
Fingal	462	5	—	—	5	11
Flinders	127	3	—	—	3	24
Portland	416	21	—	12	33	79
Ringarooma	339	—	—	—	—	—
Ross	91	2	—	—	2	22
Scottsdale	637	19	6	—	25	39
<b>North Eastern Stat Subdivision</b>	<b>2 330</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>NORTHERN STAT DIV</b>	<b>18 050</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>1 687</b>	<b>93</b>
Burnie	2 514	114	—	32	146	58
Circular Head	924	40	30	—	70	76
Devonport	3 429	188	53	114	355	104
Kentish	550	25	—	23	48	87
King Island	249	13	—	—	13	52
Latrobe	825	33	—	32	65	79
Penguin	657	32	—	—	32	49
Ulverstone	2 204	163	55	121	339	154
Wynyard	1 530	93	—	—	93	61
<b>Western Stat Subdivision</b>	<b>12 890</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>1 161</b>	<b>90</b>



Table 3.20 Existing Aged Persons Accommodation by Local Government Area, January 1983 — Continued

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Aged population (a)	Self- contained beds (b)	Hostel beds	Nursing beds	Total	Accommodation per 1 000 aged
Gormanston	14	—	—	—	—	—
Queenstown	362	4	—	—	4	11
Strahan	71	4	—	—	4	56
Waratah	64	—	—	—	—	—
Zeehan	180	7	—	—	7	39
North Western Stat Subdivision	700	15	—	—	15	21
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	13 590	716	138	322	1 176	87
TASMANIA	60 460	3 122	739	2 198	6 059	100

(a) Estimated resident population 60 and over at 30 June 1981.

(b) Beds in self-contained units built for the aged.

Source: Department of Social Security.

In terms of approved nursing home bed spaces Tasmania has marginally more per thousand of population aged 60 years and over than the Australian average. (Approved nursing homes are those approved under the *Commonwealth Nursing Homes Assistance Act* or *National Health Act* for financial assistance).

Table 3.21 Approved Nursing Homes and Beds  
States and Territories, 1983  
(Number at 30 June)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Aust
Approved nursing homes —									
Deficit financed (a)	130	73	71	57	27	28	1	—	387
Government (b)	32	70	21	5	25	5	2	2	162
Other (b)	352	237	108	88	72	17	2	2	878
Total	514	380	200	150	124	50	5	4	1 427
Beds in —									
Deficit financed nursing homes (a)	6 302	2 898	3 582	2 642	1 206	829	55	—	17 514
Government nursing homes (b)	3 391	5 188	2 445	1 141	1 736	840	54	274	15 069
Other nursing homes (b)	18 991	7 901	5 597	3 248	3 600	611	50	131	40 129
Total	28 684	15 987	11 624	7 031	6 542	2 280	159	405	72 712
Beds per thousand of population aged 60 years and over	36.1	27.5	33.7	33.4	38.5	35.8	31.8	22.9	33.2

(a) Approved under the *Nursing Homes Assistance Act* for payment of their approved operating deficits. They are voluntary non-profit nursing homes which have entered an agreement with the Commonwealth for this purpose.(b) Government, private profit and voluntary non-profit homes approved under the *National Health Act* for payment of nursing home benefits.

Source: Annual Report of the Commonwealth Director-General of Health, 1982-83.

Based on Tasmanian Department of Health Services data, an average bed occupancy rate of around 80 per cent is achieved for approved nursing home beds in government centres.

A further aspect of community health is the mental health of individuals, care for the intellectually handicapped and assistance to drug and alcohol dependent persons. These services are the responsibility of the Mental Health Services Commission in Tasmania. The Commission operates a number of centres dealing with the various aspects of mental and related health issues:

- *Psychiatric care:* The principal centre is the Royal Derwent Hospital at New Norfolk. This hospital provides facilities for patients requiring medium to long-term residential care. Psychiatric units are also attached to general hospitals — one in Hobart, one in Launceston and two on the North-West Coast.
- *Child and adolescent services* are provided from a centre in Hobart and one in Launceston. The emphasis is on family centred treatment.



- *Intellectually handicapped:* Direct care for the intellectually handicapped is provided through five units — two located in Hobart, two in Launceston and from a division of the Royal Derwent at New Norfolk.
- *Drug and alcohol dependency services* are provided on an in-and-out patient basis from one centre in Hobart and on a more limited scale from Launceston.
- *Forensic service* provides therapeutic and assessment services to mentally ill prisoners.
- *Community psychiatric services* are aimed at community based management of persons with psychiatric disorders. The service is operated from two bases in Hobart, one at Launceston and one at Devonport on the North-West Coast. A limited service to the Derwent Valley is provided from the Royal Derwent.

Long-term residential care for the psychogeriatric (i.e. old persons with psychiatric problems) are difficult to meet. The principal centre providing such care is the Royal Derwent Hospital, New Norfolk. In the north and north-west, such facilities are very limited. The increasing proportion of aged, particularly the very old, in the community will continue to add pressure for increased residential care for the psychogeriatric patients.

Table 3.22 is based on information contained in the 1982-83 annual report of the Mental Health Services Commission. Individual inpatient counts do not include patients who resided in a unit for the full year. Each patient category count total is a count of individual patients within that category. However, an individual person may have more than one patient category contact in a year — e.g. a person may be an inpatient and also have outpatient contact. In such a case he/she would be counted once in each patient category. Therefore addition of patient categories will **not** give an unduplicated total of individual person contacts with Mental Health Service Commission facilities. (Most inpatients are also in contact with units on an outpatient or day patient basis.)

**Table 3.22 Summary of Patient — Client Statistics: Mental Health Services Commission 1982-83**

Program	In patients	Individual patients		Individual clients	
	Individual number	Out	Day	Respite care	Day training
Psychiatric and public hospitals .....	1 313	2 124	105	—	—
Child and adolescent psychiatric services .....	—	1 085	2	—	—
Intellectually handicapped service .....	36	—	4	124	131
Alcohol and drug dependency service .....	383	762	106	—	—
Forensic .....	—	127	—	—	—
Community psychiatric services .....	—	2 130	131	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 732</b>	<b>6 228</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>131</b>

Source: Annual Report of the Mental Health Services Commission.

Rates per thousand of mean population in 1982-83 for the various individual patient category being treated by mental health facilities were: in patients, 4.0; outpatients, 14.5; day patients, 0.8; respite care, 0.3; and day training, 0.3.

**Table 3.23 Summary of Patient-Client Statistics  
Mental Health Services Commission 1982-83**

Program/ program component	In patients (a)				Out and day patients	
	Admissions		Discharges		Contacts	
	Total	Average per patient	Total	Average stay (days)	Total contacts	Average per patient
Psychiatric and public hospitals —						
Royal Derwent .....	461	1.3	444	48.2	930	66.4
Royal Hobart .....	342	1.2	336	19.5	3 856	4.7
Launceston General .....	423	1.4	427	13.5	8 995	10.8
N-W General .....	392	1.5	389	11.9	3 376	7.4
Mersey General .....	296	1.3	296	22.1	1 018	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 914</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1 892</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>18 175</b>	<b>8.2</b>
Child and adolescent psychiatric services .....	—	—	—	—	4 483	4.1

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**Table 3.23 Summary of Patient-Client Statistics**  
Mental Health Services Commission 1982-83 — Continued

Program/ program component	Inpatients (a)				Out and day patients	
	Admissions		Discharges		Contacts	
	Total	Average per patient	Total	Average stay (days)	Total contacts	Average per patient
Intellectually handicapped .....	—	—	—	—	156	39.0
Alcoholic and drug dependency .....	—	—	—	—	6 870	7.9
Forensic .....	—	—	—	—	687	5.4
Community psychiatric .....	—	—	—	—	20 549	9.1
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	—	—	—	—	50 920	7.7

(a) Patients staying the full year in one of the facilities are not included in these statistics.

Source: Annual report of the Mental Health Services Commission.

#### Employment in Medical Occupations

The following data are based upon Census counts. It needs to be remembered that the Census counts people where they actually are on Census night and that there is a slight under-counting of the population.

**Table 3.24 Employed Persons Classified to Selected Medical Occupations Tasmania:**  
Census 30 June 1976 and 1981

Occupation	1976		1981	
	Number	Number per thousand of Census counted population	Number	Number per thousand of Census counted population
Medical practitioners .....	560	1.4	720	1.7
Dentists .....	110	0.3	110	0.3
Nurses and nurses aides .....	4 900	12.2	5 520	13.2
Professional medical workers n.e.c. —				
Pharmacists .....	240	0.6	270	0.6
Optometrists .....	40	0.1	30	0.1
Physiotherapists .....	70	0.2	130	0.3
Radiographers .....	50	0.1	90	0.2
Other .....	130	0.3	190	0.4
<b>Total professional medical workers</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Total employed persons classified to medical occupations</b>	<b>6 100</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>7 060</b>	<b>16.8</b>

(a) Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 10.

Based on 1981 Census results Tasmania had marginally fewer doctors per thousand of population than New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. In the case of nurses and nurses aides, Tasmania's number per thousand of Census counted population was higher than any other State except South Australia.

**Table 3.25 Employed Persons Classified to Selected Medical Occupations per Thousand of Census Counted Population:**  
Census 30 June 1981

Occupation	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas
Medical practitioners	2.0	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.7	1.7
Dentists	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Nurses and nurses aides	10.3	11.9	9.6	13.4	10.6	13.2
Pharmacists	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7

#### Spending on health

Spending on health accounts for a significant proportion of State Government and State authorities' expenditure. Based on ABS analysis of State Government and authorities' expenditure, approximately 25 per cent of total final consumption expenditure goes on health. (Such expenditure includes wages, salaries, maintenance and repair, heating and purchase of other consumable items.) The bulk of the expenditure is in relation to hospitals and clinical services —



around 85 to 90 per cent of final consumption expenditure and generally in excess of 95 per cent of expenditure on new fixed assets. The proportion of total expenditure on new fixed assets, accounted for by health, fluctuates from year to year — occasionally reaching almost 10 per cent. The fluctuations mainly reflect major construction activities — in particular, building or adding to hospitals.

In 1981-82 expenditure by Tasmanian authorities (consumption plus new fixed assets) was \$329 per head of mean population. This was higher than the per capita expenditure by any other State except Western Australia which had a per capita amount of \$359.

**Table 3.26 Expenditure by State Authorities on Health:  
Final Consumption Expenditure and Expenditure on New Fixed Assets**

Year	Final consumption expenditure			Expenditure on new fixed assets		
	Amount (\$m)	Proportion of total final consumption expenditure	Amount per head of mean population (\$)	Amount (\$m)	Proportion of total final consumption expenditure	Amount per head of mean population (\$)
1976-77	77.1	24.6	186.60	11.2	6.3	27.10
1977-78	87.2	24.6	209.40	20.0	9.6	48.00
1978-79	94.3	24.5	225.00	18.5	8.9	44.10
1979-80	107.1	24.6	253.70	17.9	8.3	42.40
1980-81	119.1	24.4	280.00	13.5	5.9	31.70
1981-82	131.6	23.2	307.10	9.4	4.0	21.90

Figs 3.4 and 3.5 compare expenditure by Tasmanian State authorities on health during 1981-82 with expenditure on health in other States.

**Fig3.4 EXPENDITURE BY STATE AUTHORITIES ON HEALTH (FINAL CONSUMPTION PLUS NEW FIXED ASSETS) AMOUNT PER HEAD OF MEAN POPULATION.**

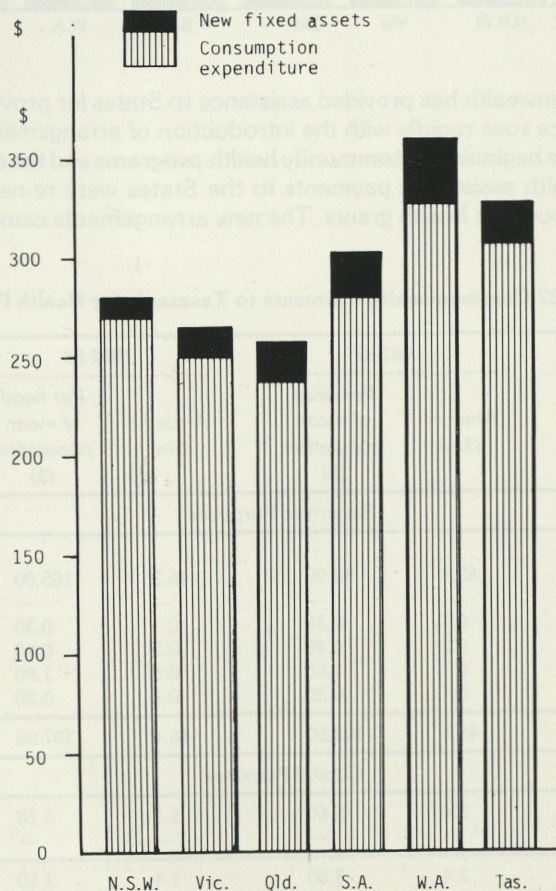
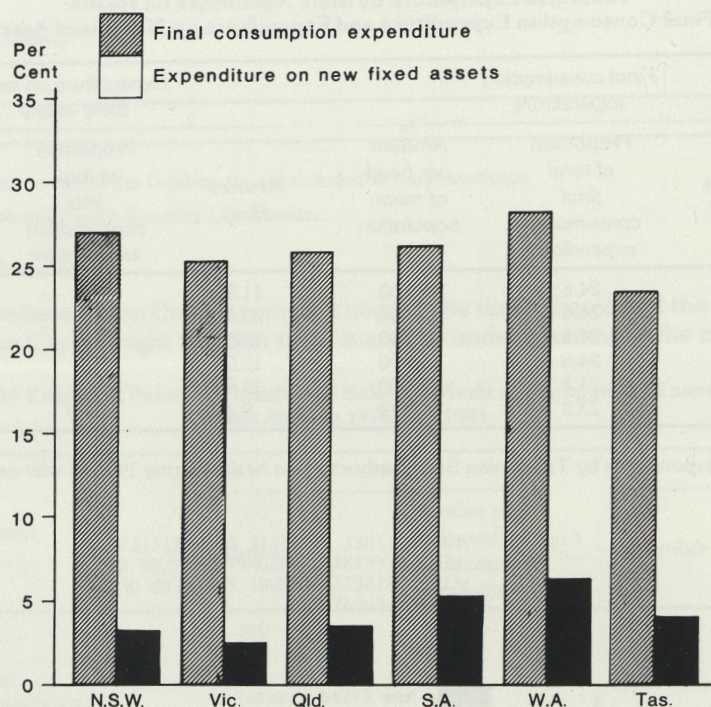




Fig3.5 PROPORTION OF TOTAL FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE AND  
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON NEW FIXED ASSETS  
BY STATE AUTHORITIES ON HEALTH 1981-82



Since 1949-50 the Commonwealth has provided assistance to States for provision of health services. During the 1970s the level of assistance rose rapidly with the introduction of arrangements for sharing the net costs of recognised public hospitals, the beginning of community health programs and the school dental scheme. With the introduction of Medicare, health assistance payments to the States were re-negotiated and specific purpose payment replaced by general purpose health grants. The new arrangements came into effect for Tasmania on 1 February 1984.

Table 3.27 Commonwealth Payments to Tasmania for Health Purposes

Payment	1981-82		1982-83		1983-84	
	Amount (\$m)	Per head of mean population (\$)	Amount (\$m)	Per head of mean population (\$)	Amount (\$m)	Per head of mean population (\$)
<b>Recurrent Purposes</b>						
Public hospitals — running costs	42.4	98.90	45.3	105.00	27.0	62.10
Medicare	—	—	—	—	10.7	24.60
Drug education campaigns	0.1	0.30	0.1	0.30	0.1	0.30
Blood transfusion service	0.2	0.40	0.2	0.40	0.3	0.60
Home care services	0.7	1.60	0.8	1.90	0.6	1.40
Other	0.1	0.30	0.1	0.20	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43.5</b>	<b>101.50</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>107.80</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>89.10</b>
<b>Capital Purposes</b>						
Launceston General Hospital	2.4	5.60	1.4	3.10	0.2	0.40
Other	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>3.10</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.60</b>



DATA REFERENCES

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

ABS Catalogue No.	TITLE
3301.6	Causes of Death (T)
3302.0	Deaths, Australia (C/O)
3303.0	Causes of Death, Australia (C/O)
4323.0	Australian Health Survey: Outline of Concepts, Methodology and Procedures (C/O)
4350.0	Children's Dental Health Survey, Australia (C/O)
4352.0	Children's Immunisation Survey, Australia (C/O)
5504.0	State and Local Government Finance, Australia (C/O)
—	Director-General Department of Health Services, Annual Report
—	Commonwealth Director-General of Health Services, Annual Report
—	The Mental Health Services Commission, Annual Report.

EDUCATION

Introduction

Education is an activity which has a major impact upon the general level of educational well-being of the individual and the community as a whole. It helps shape the individual's aspirations, values, and is a determinant of how well personal goals can be achieved. The general level of educational attainment within the community is a determinant of community adaptability, productivity, social values and expertise. From a resources point of view education is also important to general community welfare. Education is a significant consumer of community resources, both financial and manpower. As a consumer of resources it must compete with other social and welfare activities.

Statistics in this Chapter are largely restricted to measurement of participation and accessibility of education in the community and of usage of resources by education.

Participation in Education

In Tasmania tertiary education can be broken into the following broad categories:

- Primary which includes preparatory and generally covers the age range from about five years to age eleven or twelve. Excluding kindergarten there are seven years of primary schooling.
- Secondary which covers years 7 to 12 of schooling, and generally the ages 12 or 13 to 17 or 18 years. Secondary schooling in the State breaks into two parts — years 7 to 10 at the end of which the high school certificate is awarded to years 11 and 12 higher school certificate subjects are studied in the government school or for those studies generally take place at some of colleges from the last four years of secondary schooling. The University of Tasmania determines the combination of higher schooling the student which will qualify students for matriculation, the first entry qualification to university.
- Tertiary or post secondary education — this includes university, advanced colleges, technical and other vocational education and adult education.

Statistics about participation in these various levels of education are dealt with in three parts. Table 4.1 shows student enrolments by the various levels of education in Tasmania for recent years.

Table 4.1 Student Enrolments by Level of Education  
1975 to 1982 (a)

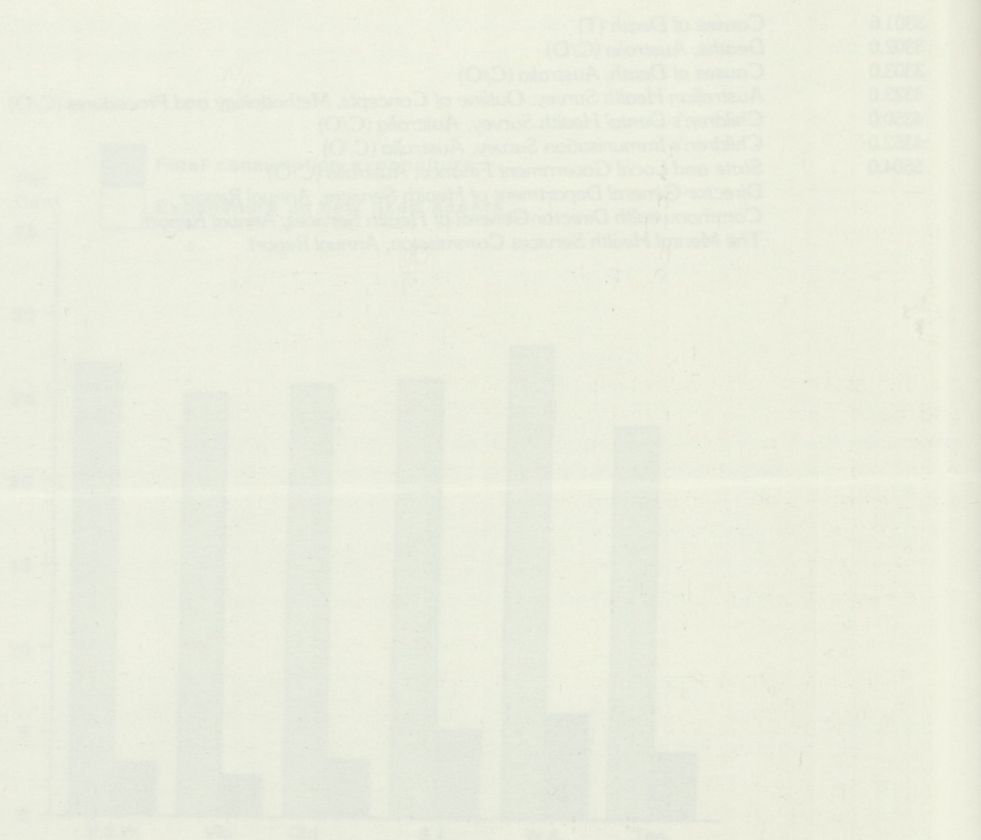
Level of education	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
School enrolments (b)						
Primary (c)	21,975	22,150	22,170	21,630	21,512	21,470
Secondary						
Years 7 & 8	20,320	20,630	20,680	20,120	19,700	19,740
Years 9 & 10	1,270	1,340	1,430	1,740	1,820	1,770
TOTAL Secondary	21,590	21,970	22,110	21,860	21,520	21,510
Source	230	280	300	380	400	400
TOTAL School Enrolments	22,820	23,400	23,780	23,670	23,430	23,380
University enrolments (d)						
Undergraduate	200	200	190	190	200	200
Postgraduate	100	100	100	100	100	100
Other (e)	200	200	190	200	200	200
TOTAL University Enrolments	500	500	480	490	500	500
Advanced colleges (f)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000



THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF THE HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA IN 1964.

TABLE

TABLE No.



Since 1961, the Government has provided assistance to States for provision of health services. During the 1960s the level of expenditure rose rapidly with the introduction of arrangements for sharing the net costs of health services. In 1964, the Government's expenditure on health services was TShs. 1,000 million. With the introduction of health services, health services were provided to the States under the health services and specific purpose grants provided by the Government. The new arrangements came into effect for Tanzania on 1 January 1964.

Table 1.1. Expenditure on Health Services in Tanzania for Health Purposes

Purpose	1961-62		1962-63		1963-64	
	Amount (TShs.)	Per head of population (Shs.)	Amount (TShs.)	Per head of population (Shs.)	Amount (TShs.)	Per head of population (Shs.)
<b>Health Services</b>						
Public hospitals						
- running costs	40.0	40.00	45.0	45.00	50.0	50.00
- Medical	10.0	10.00	10.0	10.00	10.0	10.00
- Drug and chemical supplies	5.0	5.00	5.0	5.00	5.0	5.00
- Blood transfusion services	2.0	2.00	2.0	2.00	2.0	2.00
- Other	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	58.0	58.00	63.0	63.00	68.0	68.00
<b>Other Health Services</b>						
- Laboratories	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00
- Other	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	2.0	2.00	2.0	2.00	2.0	2.00



## Chapter 4

### EDUCATION

#### Introduction

Education is an activity which has a major impact upon the general socio-economic well being of the individual and the community as a whole. It helps shape the individual's aspirations, values, and is a determinant of how well personal goals can be achieved. The general level of educational attainment within the community is a determinant of community adaptability, awareness, social values and expertise. From a resources point of view education is also important to general community welfare. Education is a significant consumer of community resources, both financial and manpower. As a consumer of resources it must compete with other social and welfare activities.

Statistics in this Chapter are largely confined to measurement of participation and accessibility of education to the community and of usage of resources by education.

#### Participation in Education

In Tasmania formal education can be broken into the following broad categories:

- Primary which includes preparatory and generally covers the age range from about five years to age eleven or twelve. Excluding kindergarten there are seven years of primary schooling;
- Secondary which covers years 7 to 12 of schooling, and generally the ages 12 or 13 to 17 or 18 years. Secondary schooling in the State breaks into two parts — years 7 to 10 at the end of which the high school certificate is awarded. In years 11 and 12 higher school certificate subjects are studied. In the government school sector these studies generally take place at separate colleges from the first four years of secondary schooling. The University of Tasmania determines the combination of higher school certificate subjects which will qualify students for matriculation, the basic entry qualification to university; and
- Tertiary or post-secondary education — this includes university, advanced colleges, technical and other vocational education and adult education.

Statistics about participation in these various levels of education are dealt with in this section. Table 4.1 shows student enrolments by the various levels of education in Tasmania for recent years.

**Table 4.1 Student Enrolments by Level of Education  
1978 to 1983 (a)**

Level of education	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
School enrolments (b)						
Primary (c) .....	51 900	52 060	52 170	51 030	49 810	48 170
Secondary —						
Years 1-4 .....	30 360	29 630	29 060	29 150	29 700	30 740
Years 5 & 6 .....	4 840	4 880	4 850	4 760	4 120	4 570
TOTAL Secondary .....	35 200	34 510	33 910	33 910	33 810	35 310
Special .....	830	850	850	910	850	850
TOTAL School Enrolments .....	87 930	87 420	86 950	85 850	84 470	84 330
University enrolments (d)						
Higher degree .....	250	260	310	510	650	640
Bachelor degree .....	2 930	2 760	2 770	3 790	3 770	3 890
Other (e) .....	340	400	440	790	790	690
TOTAL University Enrolments .....	3 520	3 440	3 520	(f) 5 080	5 210	5 220
Advanced college (d) .....	2 800	2 830	2 930	(f) 2 080	2 180	2 530

continued on next page



Technical and further education .....	15 740	16 590	17 100	18 310	17 930	18 820
Adult education .....	20 610	18 280	18 270	15 200	14 910	15 830

- (a) Figures rounded to nearest ten.  
 (b) 1 August prior to 1980; 1 July 1980 and after. From 1982 school enrolments statistics are based on concepts developed by the Australian Education Council. See next paragraph.  
 (c) Includes pre-schools.  
 (d) At 30 April.  
 (e) Post and sub-graduate diplomas, certificates and other university courses.  
 (f) In 1981 the Hobart campus of the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education closed and Newnham (Launceston) became the sole TCAE campus. Increases in University enrolments between 1980 and 1981 were largely a result of transfer of Hobart TCAE functions to the University.

The 1982 and 1983 school enrolment statistics are based on Australian Education Council concepts. A school, for AEC purposes, is an establishment whose main activity is the provision of primary or secondary education services. The effects of the change in coverage were confined to fifth and sixth years secondary enrolments in government institutions outside the scope of the definition. Also, the statistics for 1982 and 1983 relate to full-time students. In 1981, approximately 420 students were studying fifth or sixth year at out of scope establishments or were part-time students.

### School Enrolments

Table 4.2 illustrates changes that have taken place in school age population and school enrolments since the early 1970's.

Table 4.2 School age Population at 30 June

Year	Primary (incl pre-school)		Secondary			
	Population aged 5-11 years at 30 June	Enrolments (a)	Years 1-4		Years 5 and 6	
			Population aged 12-15 years at 30 June	Enrolment (a)	Population aged 16 and 17 at 30 June	Enrolments (a)
1971	58 310	51 770	32 830	30 320	14 690	3 930
1976	54 810	51 020	33 840	31 660	15 410	4 740
1981	53 370	51 030	30 670	29 150	15 730	4 760
1982 (b)	51 900	49 810	31 100	29 700	13 460	4 120

- (a) 1 August 1971 and 1976; 1 July 1981 and 1982.  
 (b) See footnote (b) to Table 4.1. The only significant affect of conceptual change was to the count of the number of students enrolled in fifth and sixth years.

The 1970s has seen a substantial decline in primary school enrolments. This is a result of major declines in fertility that have occurred over the period. The decrease in secondary school enrolments and secondary school age population has not been as dramatic, since the effects of the fall in fertility has yet to impact fully upon numbers in these age groups.

Of the total school enrolments, approximately 80 per cent of pupils attend government schools. The balance go to non-government schools. Over the period 1970 to 1983, the pattern has undergone a gradual change — in 1970 almost 85 per cent went to government schools. There is a marginal difference in the pattern of attendance at government and non-government schools at the primary and secondary levels. In 1983, 82 per cent of primary students and 79 per cent of secondary students were at government schools. In the early 1970's, around 87 per cent of primary students and 81 per cent of secondary students were enrolled in government schools.

Table 4.3 Proportion of Student Enrolments at Government and Non-Government School by Level

Year	Primary		Secondary				All school enrolments	
	Govt	Non-govt	Years 5 & 6		All		Govt	Non-govt
			Govt	Non-govt	Govt	Non-govt		
1970	86.6	13.4	70.1	29.9	81.0	19.0	84.5	15.5
1975	85.4	14.6	76.7	23.3	82.5	17.5	84.3	15.7
1980	84.2	15.8	77.5	22.5	81.1	18.9	83.2	16.8
1981	83.7	16.3	77.0	23.0	80.5	19.5	82.6	17.4
1982 (a)	83.1	16.9	71.5	28.5	79.5	20.5	81.9	18.1
1983	82.2	17.8	73.9	26.1	79.1	20.9	81.1	18.9

- (a) Scope of collection changed to exclude establishments which did not have as their principal activity provision of primary or secondary schooling.



Most non-government school students attend Catholic schools. In 1983, 67 per cent of non-government school enrolments were in Catholic schools, 12 per cent in Church of England schools and 7 per cent in non-denominational non-government schools.

Fig 4.1 illustrates participation rates in schooling for ages 14 to 18 years for males and females. The participation rates are calculated on the following basis:

$$\frac{\text{enrolments aged } x \text{ at 1 August (or 1 July)}}{\text{estimated resident population aged } x \text{ at 30 June}}$$

Fig 4.1 indicates that a higher proportion of students are staying on to complete their initial four years of secondary school. (This is generally achieved during the fifteenth year of age.) The increase has been more noticeable for girls than boys. Increased awareness of the need for at least fourth year secondary education and the high school certificate, a depressed labour market throughout the 70s, and an extension of fourth year secondary education to rural district schools are contributing factors. (Extension of fourth year high school certificate classes to rural district schools occurred in 1973.) Fig 4.1 indicates the substantial loss of students from the education system between the ages 15 and 16. Also for boys, despite increasing unemployment levels throughout the 1970s and early 1980s, participation by 16 and 17 year olds in full-time school education has fallen.

FIG 4.1 MALE AND FEMALE PARTICIPATION RATE : FULL-TIME SCHOOLING 1971-1982



The following Table, 4.4, shows apparent retention rates for government and non-government schools from year 10 (fourth year of secondary education) to year 11 (fifth year of secondary education). The rates are only approximations of the true rates for the following reasons:



- movement of students between government and non-government school systems between years 10 and 11 are not taken in to account;
- no account is taken of students who repeat year 10; and
- no allowance is made for students who enter year 11 from outside the Tasmanian education system or return to year 11 full-time after a gap in participation in full-time schooling.

**Table 4.4 Apparent Retention Rates (a): Government and Non-Government Schools Year 10 to Year 11: Males and Females**

Year	Males		Females	
	Government	Non-government	Government	Non-government
1969 to 1970	38.9	54.2	35.7	48.6
1970 to 1971	39.5	60.0	38.2	53.8
1971 to 1972	33.7	66.0	39.5	51.1
1972 to 1973	34.0	60.2	37.6	50.0
1973 to 1974	35.7	53.0	40.6	54.7
1974 to 1975	35.9	57.8	42.3	48.6
1975 to 1976	33.3	49.3	43.7	46.3
1976 to 1977	30.8	50.3	39.8	49.8
1977 to 1978	29.6	51.6	42.9	50.8
1978 to 1979	28.9	49.6	40.8	52.9
1979 to 1980	27.0	46.3	41.3	49.2
1980 to 1981	30.0	37.3	39.6	52.4
1981 to 1982 (b)	28.5	54.3	35.8	52.3
1982 to 1983	35.9	55.2	40.4	57.2

(a) Year 11 students as a proportion of year 10 students. See paragraph preceeding table relating to limitation of this measure.

(b) See footnote (b) to Table 4.1.

The non-government schools have significantly higher apparent retention rates than do the government schools from year 10 to year 11. The non-government schools often offer year 11 and 12 education as a direct continuation within the same school. For government schools, over much of the period covered, it has been necessary to break with the year 10 school and commence again at a centralised college. There are three in Hobart, two in Launceston, one in Devonport and one in Burnie. Another feature of the Table is the improvement in apparent retention rates for female students for both the government and non-government schools. A higher proportion of girls are continuing on into the higher school certificate years than boys.

In 1982, the ABS conducted a survey of persons 14-20 years of age who intended to continue schooling to year 12, or had left, or intended to leave before year 12 by type of school. Of those intending to stay at school, the principal difference in reasons given for staying on at school between government and non-government pupils related to tertiary education. Seventy-four per cent of the government school students surveyed gave this as an important reason, whereas, 88 per cent of non-government pupils listed it as important. For students leaving school the main differences between government and non-government related to the following reasons:

**Table 4.5 Persons Aged 14-20 Years Who Intend to Leave Left School Before Year 12 (a) Australia 1982**

Reason important for leaving	Proportion of	
	Government	Non-government
Wanted their own money	70	54
Had friends leaving school	18	11
Wanted to get a job	94	88
Were fed up with school	46	39

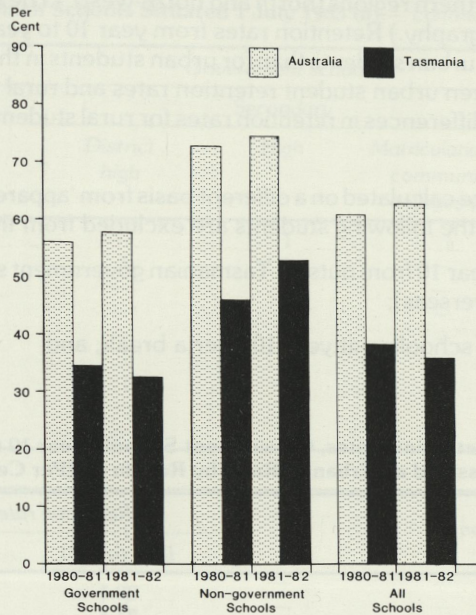
(a) Persons who intended to leave school prior to year 12 refers to students still attending school in August 1982; persons who left school prior to year 12 refer to persons who had left school in the 12 months prior to August 1982.

The figures in the preceeding table relate to the Australian student population. However, it is likely that similar factors operate within the Tasmanian school population and would help contribute the different retention rates between government and non-government schools.

Fig 4.2 compares the apparent retention rates for Tasmania and Australia from year 10 to year 11 for government, non-government and all schools.



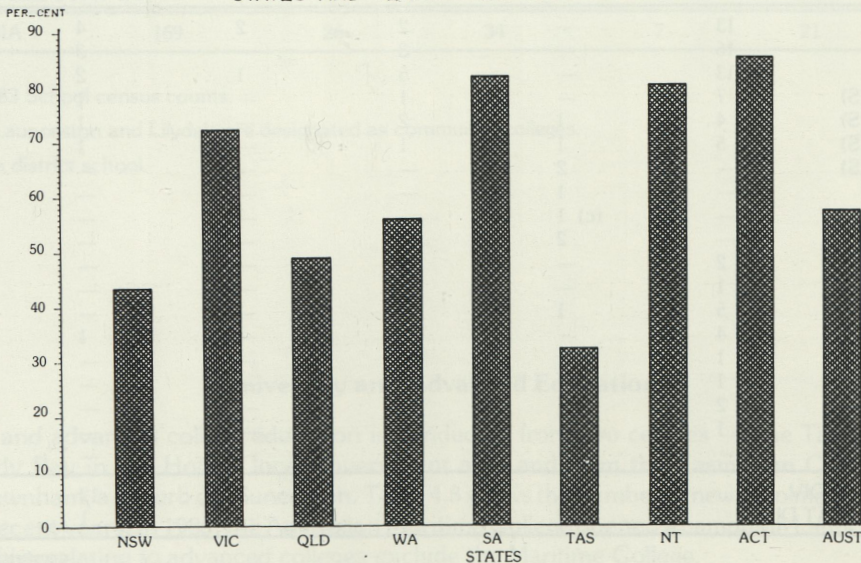
Fig4.2 APPARENT RETENTION RATES GOVERNMENT, NON-GOVERNMENT AND ALL SCHOOLS YEAR 10 TO YEAR 11 : TASMANIA AND AUSTRALIA



Availability of major certificates at the end of year 10 or year 11 is a factor which affects apparent retention rates from year 10 to year 11. For example NSW awards a certificate at the end of year 10 whereas Victoria's award is at the end of year 11. However, even allowing for this, Tasmania's apparent retention rate remains significantly below that achieved in all other states and the territories. Fig 4.3 shows apparent retention rates for government schools from year 10 to year 11 for 1981 and 1982 by states and territories. Reasons contributing to the lower Tasmanian retention rates include:

- Tasmania has a major leaving certificate at the end of year 10;
- centralisation of higher school certificate studies at a limited number of colleges — this may create access difficulties for some students;
- a higher proportion of Tasmania's population is rural and rural area students tend to have lower retention rates and earlier leaving ages than urban area students;
- centralisation of higher school certificate studies creates a more definite break in the secondary education chain and may act as a deterrent to some students; and
- lack of family and community perceived needs to progress into higher education.

FIG 4.3 APPARENT RETENTION RATES GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS YEAR 10 TO YEAR 11 STATES AND TERRITORIES 1981 TO 1982





A 1982 Tasmanian Education Department research study found a significant difference in retention rates between the southern and two northern regions (north and north-west). (The regions correspond approximately to the ABS statistical division geography.) Retention rates from year 10 to year 11 for government schools were significantly higher in the south for urban students than for urban students in the north and north-west. There was also a substantial difference between urban student retention rates and rural student retention rates. However, there were only marginal regional differences in retention rates for rural students. These differences are illustrated in Table 4.6.

Retention rates in Table 4.6. are calculated on a different basis from 'apparent retention' rates shown earlier in this Chapter. They differ because the following students are excluded from the retention rate calculation:

- (i) those transferring into year 10 from outside Tasmanian government schools (e.g. from non-government schools, interstate or overseas);
- (ii) any re-entering full-time schooling at year 10 after a break; and
- (iii) those repeating year 10.

**Table 4.6 Retention Rates, Government Schools Year 10 to Year 11:  
Classified as Urban or Rural by Region (a) (Per Cent)**

Urban or rural by region		Retention rates year 10 to 11	
		1980 to 1981	1981 to 1982
Urban —	South	38.1	40.6
	North	24.4	22.4
	North-west	23.6	22.2
Rural —	South	15.7	18.9
	North	16.2	17.1
	North-west	15.9	14.9
Tasmania —	Urban	30.6	30.7
	Rural	15.9	17.1
TOTAL		26.9	27.2

(a) Basis of calculation differs from that used to calculate apparent retention rates. See paragraph preceeding the Table.

Source: Retention and Participation in Tasmanian Education, Research Study No 2, J. Langford and M. Andrews, Education Department of Tasmania Research Branch.

Table 4.7 shows the distribution of government schools and non-government schools by local government area at 1 July 1983.

**Table 4.7 Government and Non-Government Schools by Local Government Area  
in which Schools Situated, 1 July 1983 (a) (Number)**

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Government schools					Non- government schools
		Primary	Secondary				
			District high	High	Matriculation & community colleges (b)	Special	
Hobart	(H)	13	—	2	2	4	14
Glenorchy	(H)	16	—	3	—	3	5
Clarence	(H)	13	—	5	1	2	6
Brighton	(H)(S)	7	—	1	—	1	—
Kingborough	(H)(S)	4	1	2	—	1	2
New Norfolk	(H)(S)	5	1	1	—	1	1
Sorell	(H)(S)	—	2	—	—	—	1
Bothwell	(S)	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bruny	(S)	—	(c) 1	—	—	—	—
Esperance	(S)	—	2	—	—	—	—
Glamorgan	(S)	2	—	—	—	—	1
Green Ponds	(S)	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hamilton	(S)	5	1	1	—	—	—
Huon	(S)	4	—	—	—	1	1
Oatlands	(S)	1	1	—	—	—	—
Port Cygnet	(S)	1	—	—	—	—	1
Richmond	(S)	2	1	—	—	—	1
Spring Bay	(S)	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tasman	(S)	—	1	—	—	—	—
HOBART STAT DIV		54	1	14	3	12	29
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		21	12	1	—	1	4

continued on next page



**Table 4.7 Government and Non-Government Schools by Local Government Area in which Schools Situated 1 July 1983 (a) — continued**

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Government schools					Non- government schools
	Primary	Secondary			Special	
		District high	High	Matriculation & community colleges (b)		
Launceston	7	—	1	1	1	9
Beaconsfield	2	1	1	—	—	2
Deloraine	3	—	1	—	1	2
Evandale	1	—	—	—	—	—
George Town	2	—	1	—	—	1
Lilydale	2	1	1	1	—	1
Longford	4	1	—	—	—	—
St. Leonards	8	—	2	—	3	4
Westbury	4	—	1	—	—	1
Tamar Stat Subdivision	33	3	8	2	5	20
Campbell Town	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fingal	3	1	—	—	—	—
Flinders	—	1	—	—	1	—
Portland	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ringarooma	3	1	—	—	—	—
Ross	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scottsdale	2	—	1	—	—	—
North Eastern Stat Subdivision	10	5	1	—	1	—
NORTHERN STAT DIV	43	8	9	2	6	20
Burnie	12	—	2	1	1	3
Circular Head	5	—	1	—	—	1
Devonport	6	—	2	1	1	3
Kentish	2	1	—	—	—	—
King Island	3	1	—	—	—	—
Latrobe	4	—	1	—	—	2
Penguin	2	—	1	—	—	1
Ulverstone	4	—	1	—	—	2
Wynyard	7	1	1	—	—	2
North Western Stat Subdivision	45	3	9	2	2	14
Gormanston	—	—	—	—	—	—
Queenstown	2	—	1	—	—	1
Strahan	1	—	—	—	—	—
Waratah	1	1	—	—	—	—
Zeehan	2	1	—	—	—	2
Western Stat Subdivision	6	2	1	—	—	3
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	51	5	10	2	2	17
TASMANIA	169	26	34	7	21	70

(a) Based on 1983 School census counts.

(b) Colleges in Launceston and Lilydale are designated as community colleges.

(c) Designated a district school.

### University and Advanced Education

University and advanced college education is conducted from two centres — The Tasmanian University located at Sandy Bay in the Hobart local government area and from the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education at Newnham, a suburb of Launceston. Table 4.8 shows the number of new enrolments at the University and TCAE for recent years. In 1983, the Australian Maritime College opened a campus in Launceston. Figures in the following tables relating to advanced colleges exclude the Maritime College.



Table 4.8 New Enrolments at University and Advanced College

At 30 April	Males			Females		
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total
ADVANCED COLLEGE: COMMENCING STUDENTS						
1970	n.a.	n.a.	282	n.a.	n.a.	118
1971	64	199	263	80	33	113
1972 (a)	204	141	345	306	33	339
1973	272	191	463	327	55	382
1974	270	189	459	380	45	425
1975	299	185	484	377	80	457
1976	289	237	526	371	111	482
1977	275	220	495	402	166	568
1978	248	255	503	427	141	568
1979	261	199	460	394	152	546
1980	196	258	454	316	207	523
1981 (b)	118	282	400	170	254	424
1982	147	358	505	171	221	392
1983	253	433	686	204	367	571
UNIVERSITY: NEW ENROLMENTS, BACHELOR DEGREE						
1970	467	79	546	220	36	256
1971	405	88	493	241	53	294
1972	365	92	457	194	61	255
1973	334	84	418	202	63	265
1974	407	118	525	246	74	320
1975	509	165	674	289	118	407
1976	512	153	665	330	106	436
1977	490	117	607	314	69	383
1978	545	187	732	261	93	354
1979	459	157	616	264	109	373
1980	486	184	670	279	101	380
1981 (c)	544	268	812	394	302	696
1982	582	251	833	393	222	615
1983	611	224	835	378	249	627

- (a) Teacher training courses transferred from the Hobart Teachers College to the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education.  
 (b) Hobart campus of TCAE closed and all advanced college courses run from the Newnham Campus.  
 (c) Increased enrolments largely due to closure of Hobart Campus of TCAE and transfer of some courses and functions to the University.

Table 4.9 shows total enrolments in college of advanced education and university bachelor degree courses.

Table 4.9 Enrolments at Advanced College and University

At 30 April	Males			Females		
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total
ADVANCED COLLEGE						
1970	n.a.	n.a.	878	n.a.	n.a.	262
1971	137	729	866	179	97	276
1972	416	508	924	788	99	887
1973	578	498	1076	842	85	927
1974	680	542	1222	941	98	1039
1975	732	533	1265	1016	154	1170
1976	768	609	1377	1056	209	1265
1977	747	494	1241	1089	256	1345
1978	712	618	1330	1143	323	1466
1979	716	581	1297	1177	353	1530
1980	653	677	1330	1153	443	1596
1981 (a)	374	661	1035	583	464	1047
1982	378	740	1118	551	511	1062
1983	462	854	1316	580	638	1218
UNIVERSITY BACHELOR DEGREE COURSES						
1970	1404	385	1789	650	134	784
1971	1468	438	1906	698	187	885
1972	1397	455	1852	673	219	892
1973	1311	476	1787	660	221	881
1974	1284	499	1783	710	225	935
1975	1329	472	1801	732	262	994

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Table 4.9 Enrolments at Advanced College and University — continued

At 30 April	Males			Females		
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total
UNIVERSITY BACHELOR DEGREE COURSES — continued						
1976	1 361	470	1 831	809	277	1 086
1977	1 474	365	1 839	894	211	1 105
1978	1 397	457	1 854	809	267	1 076
1979	1 287	441	1 728	745	289	1 034
1980	1 277	489	1 766	749	253	1 002
1981 (a)	1 490	590	2 080	1 216	496	1 712
1982	1 499	609	2 108	1 153	513	1 666
1983	1 593	625	2 218	1 094	574	1 668

(a) Decrease in enrolments largely due to closure of the Hobart Campus of the TCAE and transfer of some courses and remaining functions to the University.

The age structure of the part-time student population has undergone considerable change since the early to mid-70s. In 1975 the median age of part-time students enrolled in bachelor degree courses at the university was: males 24.5 years and females 25.6. By 1982 the median ages had increased to 27.4 years for males and 30.2 years for females. Similar changes have taken place for part-time students enrolled in advanced education courses i.e. median age of male part-time students increasing from 25.0 years in 1975 to 30.0 years in 1982 and females from 25.4 years to 30.2 years. Little change in median age of full-time students has occurred.

Participation rates for Tasmanian students enrolled in advanced education and university bachelor degree courses are well below the Australian average rates. Rates have been calculated on the following basis:

$$\frac{\text{enrolled students at 30 April 1982 age } x}{\text{number of population aged } x \text{ at 30 June 1982}}$$

Enrolled students' ages are as at 31 December of the preceeding year. Only combined college and university participation rates are shown in Fig 4.5. (The change in location of the TCAE campus in 1981 and transfer of functions and courses from the Hobart campus affected the relative participation rates at university and the TCAE.)

FIG 4.4 PARTICIPATION RATES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN BACHELOR DEGREE AND ADVANCED EDUCATION COURSES FOR SELECTED AGES TASMANIA AND AUSTRALIA 1982

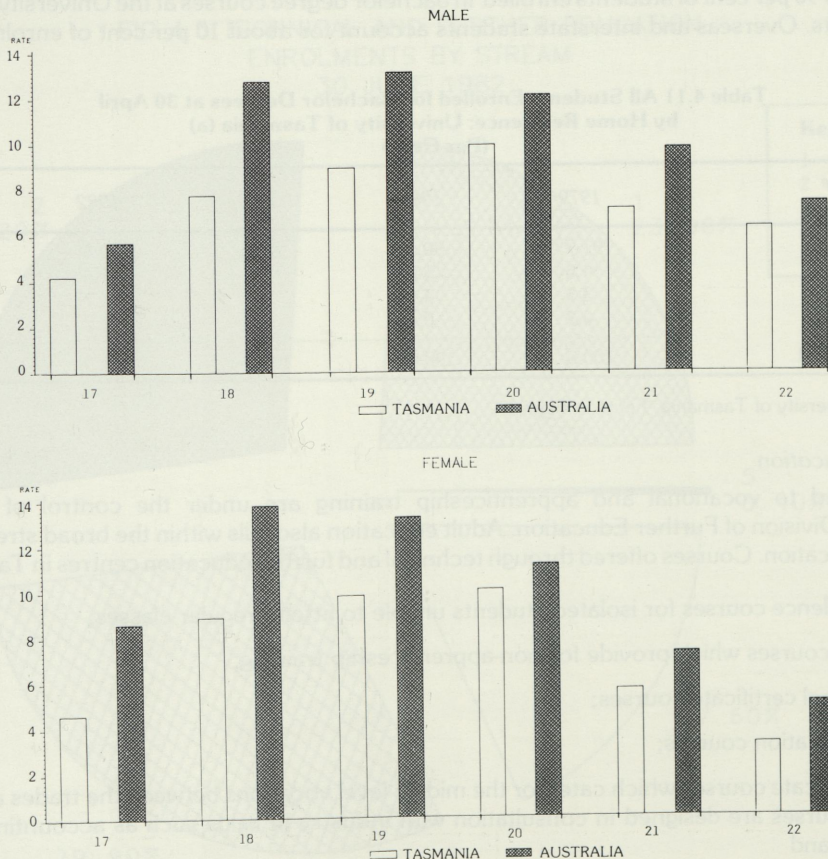




Table 4.9 illustrates participation rates in university bachelor degree and advanced education for the same selected ages as in Fig 4.4.

**Table 4.10 Participation in University Bachelor Degree and College of Advanced Education Courses: Selected Ages Tasmania**

<i>Students enrolled at 30 April</i>		<i>Selected ages (a)</i>					
		17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>University Bachelor Degree Courses</i>							
1975 —	Males	4.2	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.8	4.2
	Females	3.8	4.7	4.9	3.4	1.6	1.4
1980 —	Males	2.9	6.0	5.7	6.3	5.1	4.1
	Females	2.3	4.4	3.6	3.4	2.3	1.5
1982 (a) —	Males	3.7	6.5	7.4	7.9	5.4	4.9
	Females	3.1	6.1	6.6	7.0	3.5	2.2
<i>College of Advanced Education Courses</i>							
1975 —	Males	1.2	3.3	3.9	4.3	4.0	2.2
	Females	4.1	6.4	6.9	4.6	2.1	1.1
1980 —	Males	1.3	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.6	2.0
	Females	3.4	5.7	6.2	5.8	2.9	1.5
1982 (b) —	Males	0.6	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.9	1.5
	Females	1.6	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.1	1.1
<i>All University Bachelor Degree and College of Advanced Education Courses</i>							
1975 —	Males	5.3	10.1	10.5	10.7	9.8	6.5
	Females	7.9	11.1	11.8	7.9	3.7	2.5
1980 —	Males	4.2	8.3	8.6	9.6	7.6	6.1
	Females	5.7	10.1	9.8	9.2	5.1	3.0
1982 —	Males	4.3	7.9	9.0	10.1	7.3	6.4
	Females	4.7	8.9	9.9	10.0	5.5	3.2

(a) Enrolled students' age are as at 31 December of preceeding year.

(b) Participation rates affected by 1981 closure of the TCAE Hobart campus and transfer of functions and courses to the university.

Approximately 90 per cent of students enrolled in bachelor degree courses at the University of Tasmania are Tasmanian residents. Overseas and interstate students account for about 10 per cent of enrolments.

**Table 4.11 All Students Enrolled for Bachelor Degrees at 30 April by Home Residence: University of Tasmania (a)**  
(Per Cent)

<i>Home residence</i>	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Tasmanian	91.7	90.5	89.7	89.4	88.6
Interstate	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.6	5.6
Overseas	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.7	5.4
Not stated	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.3
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Source: 'The University of Tasmania, Facts in Figures'.

#### *Vocational Education*

Courses related to vocational and apprenticeship training are under the control of the Education Department's Division of Further Education. Adult education also falls within the broad stream of technical and further education. Courses offered through technical and further education centres in Tasmania include:

- correspondence courses for isolated students unable to attend regular classes;
- vocational courses which provide for non-apprenticeship training;
- higher school certificate courses;
- teacher education courses;
- TAFE certificate courses which cater for the middle level vocations between the trades and professions — such courses are designed in consultation with industry in fields such as accounting, engineering, child-care; and



- trade courses which are complementary to the employer training given to apprentices.

Many of the students enrolled in TAFE courses undertake their studies at the Hobart Technical College and through community colleges.

Table 4.12 shows enrolment in TAFE courses for recent years.

**Table 4.12 Technical and Further Education Enrolments by Type of Enrolment at 30 June (a)**

Enrolment type	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Full-time	1 104	1 464	1 604	1 065	1 367
Part-time	13 615	13 593	14 320	15 920	15 411
External	1 020	1 531	1 180	1 328	1 153
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15 739</b>	<b>16 588</b>	<b>17 104</b>	<b>18 313</b>	<b>17 931</b>

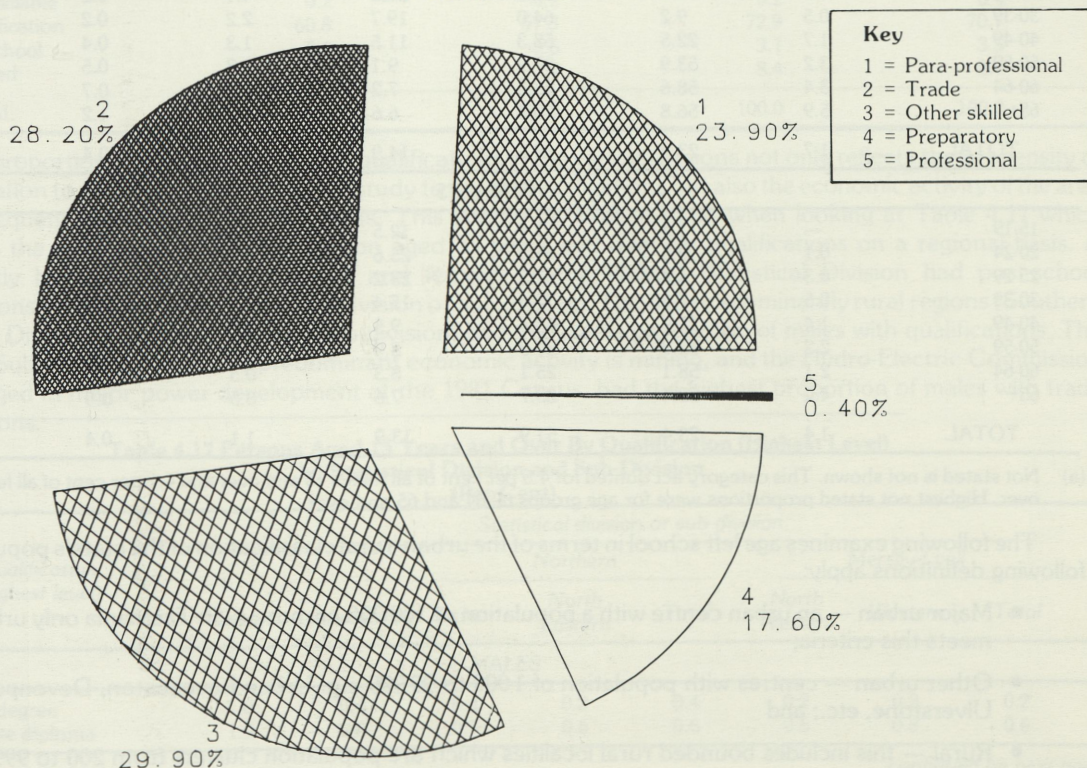
(a) Source: Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission.

TAFE students are classified by broad stream of enrolment:

- *professional* — lead to professional status or enable professionals to update their technology or to specialise;
- *para-professional* — are provided for students preparing to enter or progress within middle-level or technician occupation;
- *trade* — apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship and pre-employment type courses are post-trade courses for advanced skills;
- *other skilled* — all other skilled trade and vocational courses or programs relevant to basic skills and knowledge but not included in the trade stream; and
- *preparatory* — courses such as matriculation, diploma entrance, remedial courses and vocational courses not included elsewhere.

Fig 4.5 shows the proportion of students by stream in 1982.

**FIG 4.5 TECHNICAL AND FURTHER EDUCATION ENROLMENTS BY STREAM 30 JUNE 1982**





Apprenticeship training in Tasmania is controlled by the Apprenticeship Commission. Table 4.4 shows the apprenticeship details for Tasmania for recent years.

The 1981-82 and 1982-83 registrations of new apprentices were substantially lower than earlier years. Registrations in 1982-83 were only about 60 per cent of the level which applied throughout much of the 1970s. The cut-backs in apprentice intakes were industry wide and reflected continued poor depressed economic conditions. The 1983-84 intake has shown some recovery and was 932 new registrations.

Table 4.13 Apprenticeships: Tasmania

Apprenticeship details	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
Number at 30 June —						
Indentured	4 424	4 445	4 465	4 466	4 177	3 647
On probation	320	330	296	332	203	179
Total	4 744	4 775	4 761	4 798	4 380	3 826
During year —						
New registrations	1 271	1 278	1 379	1 362	1 074	761
Completions	1 077	1 007	1 140	1 190	1 083	1 091

### Qualifications of the Population

The 1981 Census included the question 'How old was each person when they left school?' Answers to this question give an approximate guide to level of schooling reached by the population and changing school attendance patterns for the various age cohorts. The noteworthy features of the following table are:

- the higher proportions in the younger age cohorts that left school in the age range 15 to 18 years; and
- the consequent decrease in the proportion of students leaving at ages under 15 years.

Table 4.14 Persons 15 Years and Over: Age Left School, Census 1981 (a)  
(Per cent)

Age (years)	Age left school					Never attended	Still attend- ing
	Less than 13	13, 14	15, 16	17, 18	19 and over		
MALES							
15-19	—	1.4	55.9	10.5	0.1	0.3	28.3
20-24	0.2	3.8	64.9	23.9	3.0	0.1	0.6
25-29	0.2	5.0	60.8	26.2	4.1	0.2	0.1
30-39	0.5	9.2	64.0	19.7	2.2	0.2	0.1
40-49	1.7	22.5	58.3	11.5	1.3	0.4	0.1
50-59	3.2	53.9	27.2	9.1	1.3	0.5	0.1
60-64	3.4	58.6	23.3	7.2	1.2	0.7	—
65+	5.9	56.8	20.3	6.6	1.3	1.2	—
TOTAL	1.7	23.3	49.7	14.9	1.8	0.4	3.7
FEMALES							
15-19	—	1.4	51.4	12.5	0.2	0.5	30.7
20-24	0.1	3.5	64.6	25.6	3.2	—	0.5
25-29	0.3	4.4	67.3	23.2	2.5	0.1	—
30-39	0.5	7.2	72.6	15.4	1.1	0.2	0.1
40-49	1.4	21.9	63.4	9.5	0.6	0.3	0.1
50-59	2.2	52.8	30.8	8.9	0.8	0.6	0.1
60-64	2.1	58.1	25.1	8.3	0.5	0.5	—
65+	4.4	53.4	23.7	7.6	0.5	0.9	—
TOTAL	1.4	23.4	51.9	13.9	1.1	0.4	3.8

(a) Not stated is not shown. This category accounted for 4.5 per cent of all males 15 and over and 4.1 per cent of all females 15 and over. Highest not stated proportions were for age groups 60-64 and 65 and over.

The following examines age left school in terms of the urban/rural classification of the state's population. The following definitions apply:

- Major urban — an urban centre with a population of 100 000 or more — in Tasmania only urban Hobart meets this criteria;
- Other urban — centres with population of 1 000 to 99 999 e.g. Urban Launceston, Devonport, Burnie, Ulverstone, etc.; and
- Rural — this includes bounded rural localities which are population clusters from 200 to 999.



The principal points emerging from Table 4.15 are : (i) the higher proportion of rural males who left school at age 13 and 14 years compared with urban dwelling males; and (ii) the lower proportion of both rural males and females leaving at ages 17 and 18 years compared to those living in the major urban centre of Hobart. Urban Hobart's higher proportion of school leavers in the age age 17, 18 bracket is likely to be affected by the concentration of jobs, particularly in the government sector, which puts emphasis on tertiary qualifications. The difference in the proportion of the population leaving at ages 17, 18 years between rural and other urban centres is only marginal.

**Table 4.15 Persons 15 Years and Over: Age Left School, Census 1981 by Urban Rural Classification of Population (Per Cent)**

Age left school (years)	Major urban (a)		Other urban (b)		Rural	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Less than 13	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.2
13, 14	19.8	21.4	24.0	24.6	26.5	23.8
15, 16	46.4	49.3	52.0	53.2	50.1	53.3
17, 18	20.9	17.7	12.2	11.4	12.2	13.0
19 and over	2.5	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.2
Never attended	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4
Still attending	4.5	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.0	3.5
Not stated	3.7	3.9	4.8	4.4	4.3	3.6
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Urban centre with population of 100 000 or more.

(b) Urban centre with population of 1 000 to 99 999.

Tasmania's proportion of the population with no post-school qualification is marginally higher than the Australian proportion. This is illustrated in Table 4.16.

**Table 4.16 Persons Aged 15 Years and Over by Qualification (Highest Level)**

Qualification (highest level)	Males		Females	
	Tasmania	Australia	Tasmania	Australia
Higher degree	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.2
Graduate diploma	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7
Bachelor degree	3.4	3.9	1.9	1.9
Diploma	2.5	3.2	3.8	4.0
Trade Certificate	15.9	17.3	1.4	1.7
Other certificate	4.7	5.3	7.2	8.1
Not classifiable	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4
No qualification	60.8	57.3	72.9	70.7
Still at school	3.1	3.6	3.1	3.5
Not stated	8.1	7.7	8.4	8.7
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The proportion of the population with qualifications in the various regions not only reflects the propensity of the population to undertake the necessary study to obtain qualifications but also the economic activity of the area and consequent demands for qualifications. This should be kept in mind when looking at Table 4.17 which compares the proportion of the population aged 15 years and over by qualifications on a regional basis. A significantly higher proportion of males and females in the Hobart Statistical Division had post-school qualifications than in any other statistical division or sub-division. The two predominantly rural regions (Southern Statistical Division and North Eastern Sub-division) had the lowest proportion of males with qualifications. The Western Sub-division, where the predominant economic activity is mining, and the Hydro-Electric Commission was engaged in major power development at the 1981 Census, had the highest proportion of males with trade qualifications.

**Table 4.17 Persons Aged 15 Years and Over By Qualification (Highest Level) by Statistical Division and Sub-Division (Per Cent)**

Qualification (highest level)	Statistical division or sub division							
	Northern					Mersey-Lyell		
	Hobart	Southern	Tamar	North Eastern	Total	North Western	Western	Total
MALES								
Higher degree	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
Graduate diploma	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.6

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**Table 4.17 Persons Aged 15 Years and Over By Qualification (Highest Level)  
by Statistical Division and Sub-Division  
(Per Cent) — continued**

Qualification (highest level)	Statistical division or sub division							
	Northern					Mersey-Lyell		
	Hobart	Southern	Tamar	North Eastern	Total	North Western	Western	Total
<b>MALES — continued</b>								
Bachelor degree	4.8	2.2	2.6	1.8	2.5	2.1	3.3	2.3
Diploma	3.0	1.9	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.2	1.2	2.1
Trade certificate	15.9	10.6	17.5	10.4	16.6	16.4	18.7	16.8
Other certificate	5.9	3.7	4.4	2.9	4.2	3.5	3.2	3.5
Not classifiable	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
TOTAL with qualifications	31.9	19.5	28.3	18.3	27.0	25.3	27.1	25.6
No qualification	57.2	70.6	61.0	71.9	62.5	63.9	52.4	62.1
Still at school	3.6	2.2	3.1	1.7	2.9	2.9	2.0	2.8
Not stated	7.4	7.7	7.5	8.1	7.6	7.8	18.6	9.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>FEMALES</b>								
Higher degree	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	0.1
Graduate diploma	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
Bachelor degree	2.6	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.3
Diploma	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.1	3.7
Trade certificate	1.6	0.9	1.5	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.2
Other certificate	7.6	5.7	7.0	5.7	6.8	7.3	6.1	7.2
Not classifiable	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
TOTAL with qualifications	17.3	13.4	14.7	12.8	14.5	14.3	13.0	14.2
No qualifications	71.2	76.3	73.5	77.9	74.0	73.8	72.5	73.6
Still at school	3.3	2.3	3.3	1.6	3.1	3.2	2.8	3.1
Not stated	8.2	8.0	8.5	7.6	8.4	8.7	11.8	9.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

### Manpower

Table 4.18 shows the number of full-time teachers in schools and the full-time equivalent of part-time teachers.

**Table 4.18 Number of Teaching Staff (a)**

Year	Number of full-time teachers			Part-time teaching — equivalent full-time units		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
<b>GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS</b>						
1978	1 765	2 668	4 433	13	138	151
1979	1 815	2 783	4 598	16	138	154
1980	1 924	2 833	4 757	17	134	151
1981	1 998	2 823	4 821	41	86	127
1982 (b)	1 958	2 796	4 754	14	133	147
1983	1 980	2 804	4 784	41	200	241
<b>NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS</b>						
1978	233	417	650	14	92	107
1979	257	429	686	13	93	106
1980	275	436	711	21	98	120
1981	283	446	729	16	109	125
1982	316	461	777	14	113	127
1983	348	499	847	16	113	129

(a) 1 August prior to 1980; 1 July since 1980.

(b) Not strictly comparable with earlier years due to change in scope of school statistics following adoption of Australian Education Council concepts. Schools only included those establishments whose major activity is provision of full-time day primary, secondary or special education. Changes had no effect upon the Tasmanian non-government school sector.

In addition to the teaching staff employed in government schools, a further 1 635 persons were employed in non-teaching positions in 1982.



For both government and non-government schools the number of students per teacher has declined. This number should not be confused with average class size.

**Table 4.19 Number of Students per Teacher**

Year	Student teacher ratios (a)	
	Government	Non-government
1978	16.1	18.8
1979	15.4	18.2
1980	14.7	17.6
1981	14.3	17.5
1982	(b) 14.1	17.0
1983	13.6	16.3

(a) Number of students enrolled divided by number of full-time teaching staff plus full-time equivalents. 1 August prior to 1980; 1 July since 1980.

(b) See note (b) to Table 4.18.

The next table shows the number of teachers employed by the Education Department at 1 July 1982 according to type of school and teaching level. The scope differs from Table 4.19 in that teachers at some establishments which are not counted as schools by the AEC are included in Table 4.20. Also technical, adult education and kindergarten school teachers are included.

**Table 4.20 Number of Teachers as at 1 July 1982: Department of Education (a)**

Type of school	Full-time			Part-time		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Kindergarten	4	172	176	—	33	33
Special	42	90	132	3	51	54
Primary	493	1 575	2 068	18	314	332
District —						
Primary	—	2	2	—	—	—
Secondary	1	1	2	1	3	4
District High —						
Primary	69	201	270	—	59	59
Secondary	207	142	349	16	47	63
High	969	740	1 709	24	35	59
Matriculation	254	119	373	59	78	137
Technical and adult education	443	124	567	716	454	1 170
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2 482</b>	<b>3 166</b>	<b>5 648</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>1 074</b>	<b>1 911</b>

Source: Education Department Report, 1982.

(a) Teachers in administration and services branches are excluded.

The following tables show the number of teaching staff involved in tertiary education.

**Table 4.21 Advanced Education Teaching Staff at 30 April (a)**

Teaching staff particulars	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981 (b)	1982
Full-time —						
Heads etc.	19	21	17	16	8	12
Senior lecturers	55	56	54	54	38	33
Lecturers	114	99	117	115	74	79
Other	13	35	16	11	4	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>127</b>
Part-time (expressed as equivalent full- time units) —						
Lecturers	10	11	11	2	—	—
Other	7	27	20	14	9	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL Staff (c)</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>135</b>

(a) Rounded to the nearest whole unit.

(b) Fall in some numbers due to closure of Hobart campus and transfer of some remaining functions to the University.

(c) Expressed as full-time equivalents.



Table 4.22 University of Tasmania Teaching Staff at 30 April (a)

Teaching staff particulars	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Full-time —						
Professors	38	38	38	37	39	36
Associate professors, readers	30	34	37	38	43	48
Senior lecturers, lecturers, teaching registrars	177	186	182	184	239	237
Assistant lecturers, demonstrators, tutors, teaching fellows	53	51	45	42	53	51
TOTAL	298	309	301	301	373	372
Part-time (expressed as full-time equivalents)						
Senior lecturers, lecturers	2	3	3	4	4	8
Assistant lecturers, demonstrators, tutors, teaching fellows	9	10	11	7	9	9
TOTAL	11	13	14	11	13	17
TOTAL Teaching Staff	309	321	315	312	386	389

(a) Expressed as full-time equivalent units, rounded to nearest whole number.

Table 4.23 Technical and Further Education Teaching Staff (a)

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Full-time teachers	375	416	439	474	490
Part-time teachers	1010	(b) 960	(b) 707	1481	1506

(a) Full-time teachers refer to teaching staff employed at 30 June; part-time refer to part-time (hourly paid) staff employed at any time during the teaching year.

(b) Excludes data for North-West Adult Education region; data for Southern Adult Education Division estimated.

### Expenditure on Education

The ABS compiles statistics of government and local government financial transactions according to type of transaction (e.g. expenditure relating to the production of goods and services) and purpose served by the transaction (e.g. money spent on education, health). This ABS statistical series is the source of the statistics in Table 4.24.

Table 4.24 Expenditure on Education by State Authorities in Tasmania (\$m)

Expenditure type and purpose	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
Final consumption expenditure (a) —							
Primary and secondary	70.8	83.1	91.6	101.7	115.0	129.6	169.0
University	13.7	16.2	17.6	18.7	20.5	24.8	31.5
Other	24.0	29.3	36.8	40.9	46.1	51.0	41.8
TOTAL	108.5	128.6	146.0	161.3	181.6	205.4	242.3
Expenditure on new fixed assets (b) —							
Primary and secondary	18.1	15.2	17.4	10.8	9.9	8.9	6.7
University	2.7	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.7
Other	11.7	13.1	11.7	15.1	15.8	14.2	6.6
TOTAL	32.5	29.4	30.2	26.9	26.6	24.6	15.0

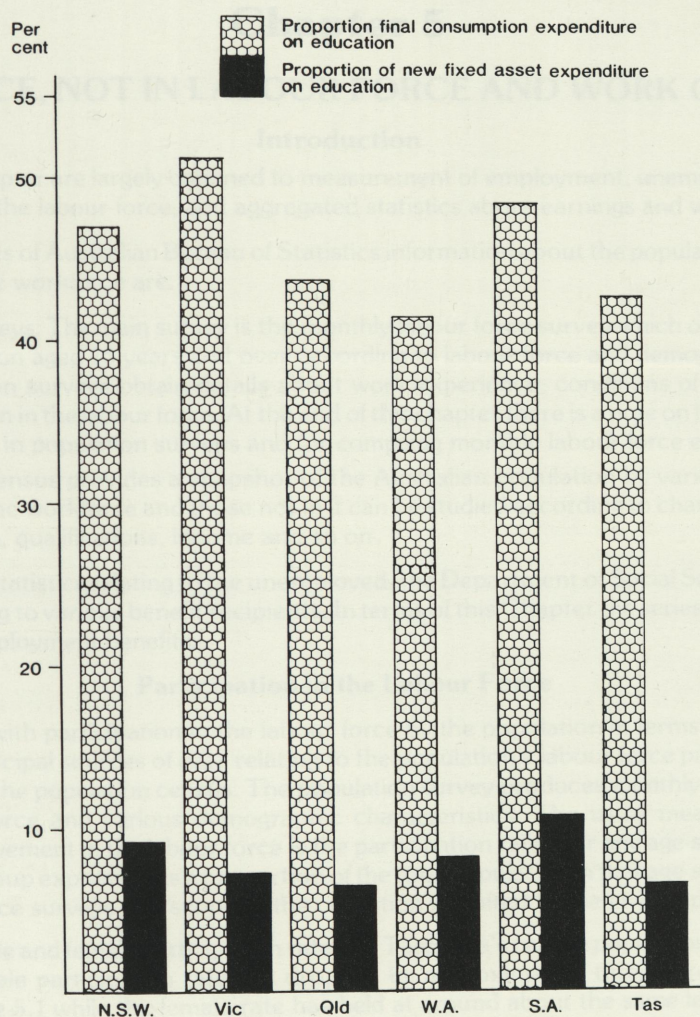
(a) Expenditure on wages, salaries, consumable items (e.g. stationery, cleaning materials) repairs, maintenance, etc.

(b) Expenditure on new buildings, equipment, major renovations, etc.



The proportion of total state authorities' final consumption expenditure accounted for by education has been around 42 per cent over the past decade. Education's proportion of expenditure on new fixed assets has declined over the period i.e. in the early 1970s it was around 18 per cent of total state authorities' expenditure in this category and by 1981-82 had fallen to around six per cent. Fig 4.6 illustrates the proportion of final consumption and new fixed asset expenditure accounted for by education for each State.

Fig 4.6 EDUCATION EXPENDITURE AS A PROPORTION OF STATE AUTHORITIES' FINAL CONSUMPTION AND NEW FIXED ASSET EXPENDITURE BY STATES 1981-82



#### DATA REFERENCES

ABS Catalogue No.

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

4202.0	Schools Australia (C/O)
4201.6	Education, Tasmania (T)
4202.6	Schools, Tasmania (T)
4203.6	Tertiary Education, Tasmania (T)
4204.6	Government Schools, Tasmania (T)
4205.6	Non-Government Schools, Tasmania (T)
4206.0	Colleges of Advanced Education, Australia (C/O)
4208.0	University Statistics, Australia (C/O)
4215.0	National Schools Collection: Government Schools Australia (C/O)
4216.0	Non-Government Schools, Australia (C/O)
4217.0	Reasons for Completion or Non-Completion of Secondary Education, Australia (C/O)
5504.0	State and Local Government Finance, Australia (C/O)
—	The University of Tasmania, Facts in Figures (University of Tasmania)
—	Selected TAFE Statistics (Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission)
—	Education Department Annual Report
—	Retention and Participation in Tasmanian Education, J. Langford and M. Andrews, Research Study No. 82 (Education Department)



The proportion of total expenditure on education in the United Kingdom has been around 4.2 per cent over the past decade. Education expenditure as a proportion of total expenditure has been declining over the period from the early 1970s. Expenditure on education is not only a small proportion of total expenditure in the United Kingdom but also a small proportion of total expenditure in the United States and Japan. The proportion of total expenditure on education for each state is shown in Figure 1.

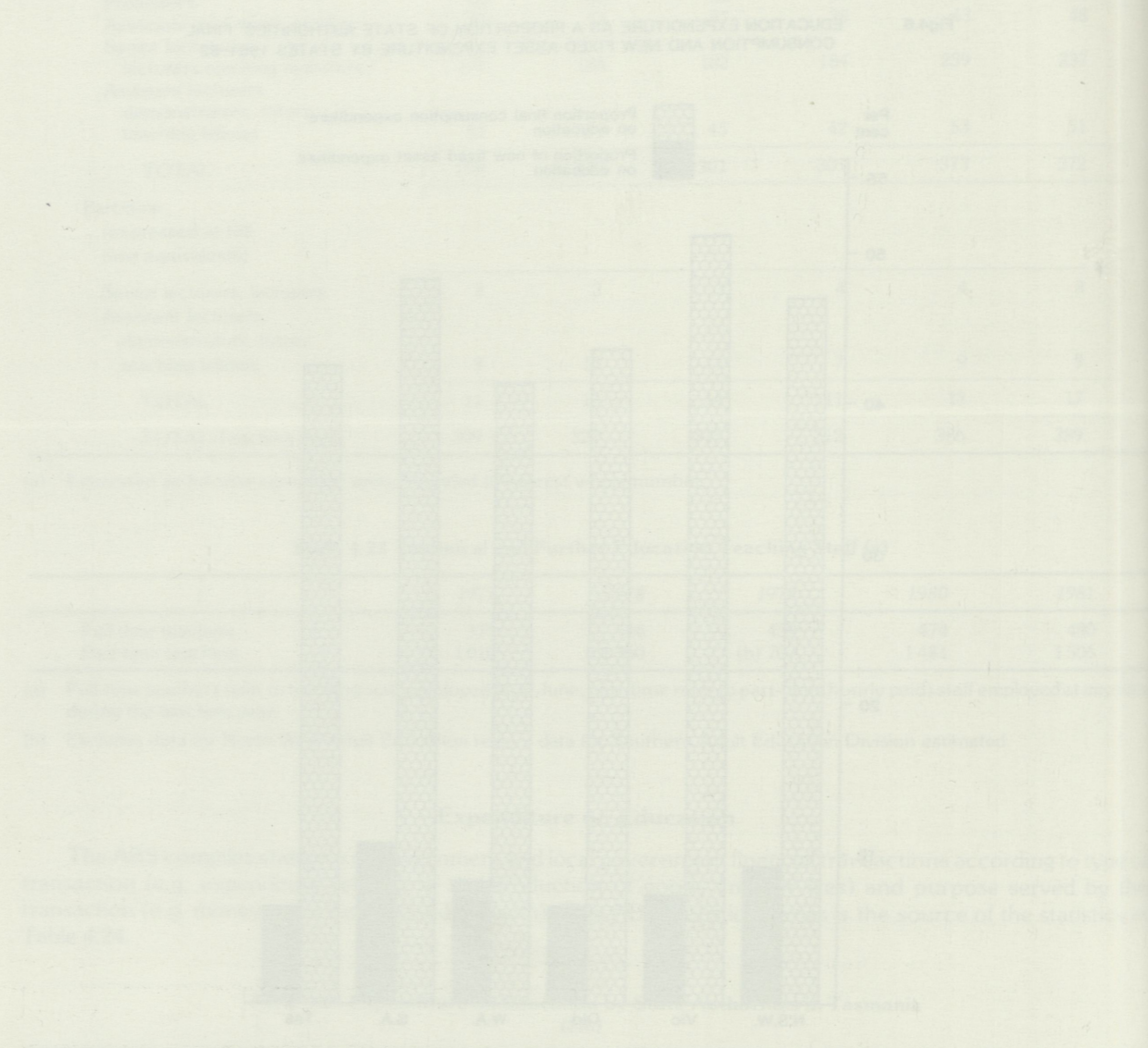


TABLE 1  
Proportion of total expenditure on education as a proportion of total expenditure, 1970-71 to 1980-81

State	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81
NSW	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2
VIC	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1
QLD	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0
WA	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9
SA	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8
TB	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5



## Chapter 5

### LABOUR FORCE, NOT IN LABOUR FORCE AND WORK CONDITIONS

#### Introduction

Statistics in this Chapter are largely confined to measurement of employment, unemployment, participation and non-participation in the labour force, and aggregated statistics about earnings and work conditions.

The principal sources of Australian Bureau of Statistics information about the population's work experience and characteristics of the workforce are:

- *Population surveys:* The main survey is the monthly labour force survey which obtains details about the civilian population aged 15 years and over according to labour force and demographic characteristics. Other population surveys obtain details about work experience, conditions of work, and reasons for non-participation in the labour force. At the end of this chapter there is a note on the scope, coverage and definitions used in population surveys and for compiling monthly labour force estimates.
- *Census:* The Census provides a snapshot of the Australian population by various characteristics at a point in time. The workforce and those not in it can be studied according to characteristics such as age, sex, occupation, qualifications, income and so on.

As well as the ABS statistics relating to the unemployed, the Department of Social Security produces a wide range of statistics relating to various benefit recipients. In terms of this Chapter the series of most interest relates to those receiving unemployment benefits.

#### Participation in the Labour Force

This section deals with participation in the labour force by the population in terms of age, sex and marital characteristics. The principal sources of data relating to the population's labour force participation are the ABS population surveys and the population census. The population survey produces monthly estimates of the civilian population by labour force and various demographic characteristics. The usual measure applied to assess changing trends in involvement in the labour force is the participation rate. For any age-sex group it is the labour force for that age-sex group expressed as a proportion of the total population in that age-sex group. (In the case of ABS monthly labour force surveys, the scope of the collection is limited to the civilian population.)

Table 5.1 shows male and female participation rates for Tasmania's civilian population by broad marital status categories. The total male participation rate has dropped by approximately three percentage points over the period covered by Table 5.1 while the female rate has held at around about the same level. Changes in the age components of the participation rate are shown in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.1 Civilian Population Male and Female Labour Force Participation Rates:  
Married and Not Married  
(Per Cent)**

Month	Males			Females		
	Married	Not Married	All	Married	Not Married	All
1978 February	82.9	74.2	79.9	37.2	45.0	39.9
August	82.5	70.7	78.5	38.6	39.0	38.7
December	82.4	74.4	79.7	38.8	43.5	40.5
1979 February	83.5	72.4	79.7	37.5	43.7	39.8
August	83.0	68.8	77.9	42.1	45.6	43.4
December	81.8	73.9	79.1	38.6	48.2	42.0
1980 February	80.5	75.4	78.8	38.4	48.8	42.2
August	80.8	68.5	76.8	38.2	43.3	40.2
December	81.2	75.6	79.3	41.2	48.0	43.8

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**Table 5.1 Civilian Population Male and Female Labour Force Participation Rates: Married and Not Married (Per Cent) — continued**

Month	Males			Females		
	Married	Not Married	All	Married	Not Married	All
1981 February	80.3	76.1	78.8	38.6	45.8	41.3
August	80.4	69.8	76.6	40.6	41.4	40.9
December	80.0	75.1	78.2	39.1	47.2	42.2
1982 February	79.5	76.7	78.5	36.3	43.9	39.2
August	78.0	71.7	75.8	38.7	42.1	40.0
December	80.1	70.6	76.7	38.1	47.2	41.5
1983 February	79.7	69.8	76.1	36.4	46.2	40.1
August	79.3	67.1	75.0	35.8	44.2	39.2
December	78.4	74.0	76.8	38.0	46.5	41.4
1984 January	77.2	73.7	76.0	35.3	47.1	40.0
February	78.0	73.9	76.5	35.3	44.6	39.1
March	78.5	71.9	76.3	40.3	43.7	40.3
April	77.8	71.6	75.7	40.7	44.2	42.1
May	77.1	69.7	74.6	40.6	42.8	41.5

There are only minor differences between the Tasmanian and Australian male participation rates. In the case of women the Australian participation rate is about three to four percentage points higher than the Tasmanian rate.

**Males:** The most notable changes in male participation relate to the older age groups. For males aged 55-59 the rate has fallen by about 11 percentage points from the early 1970s. Participation by males aged 60-64 is less than half of the 1971 August rate. Part of the explanation relates to workers opting for earlier retirement i.e. for some an entirely voluntary decision and for others partially involuntary and determined by the possibility of retrenchment. Also, persons in the higher order age groups experience extreme difficulty in finding employment once their job is lost and this can lead to withdrawal from the labour market.

**Females:** In the younger age groups there has been a definite shift towards higher participation in the labour force. Greater recognition of the role of women in the workforce, improved job opportunities and movement towards equality of employment combined with greater awareness of these opportunities are factors contributing to the trend towards increased participation. As well the economic conditions have created a need for a second income within families to cover uncertainties related to employment. The increased labour force participation by the younger female age groups has also been accompanied by a shift towards later age at marriage and later age of bearing first nuptial children. This tendency for women to remain in the labour force longer and then re-enter after child-bearing has been completed, has pushed up female participation rates. The increased duration of stay in the labour force is a factor explaining the shift in participation by the 20-24 age group from around the 45 to 50 per cent level at the beginning of the period to around 65 per cent in the early 1980s. Many women in the 25-34, and 35-44 age groups re-enter the labour force as part-time workers. (Around 50 to 55 per cent of employed women in these age groups are part-time, whereas only about 20 to 25 per cent of employed females in the 20-24 age group work part-time.)

**Table 5.2 Participation Rates by Age and Sex at August 1971 to 1983 (a) (Per Cent)**

August	Age Group							
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
MALES								
1971	61.5	95.1	97.5	99.2	94.4	90.5	89.9	90.9
1972	60.5	91.4	97.9	96.3	95.4	91.0	78.0	89.3
1973	63.8	89.5	96.8	96.2	94.2	90.4	73.3	88.8
1974	61.8	94.1	96.7	97.1	94.8	84.4	77.6	88.9
1975	64.7	90.2	97.6	96.8	94.5	90.6	68.6	88.6
1976	63.1	91.4	96.3	95.0	93.6	87.8	70.3	87.6
1977	63.3	92.3	98.4	97.4	95.8	81.7	54.6	87.5
1978	63.0	95.0	96.6	97.8	93.8	75.8	58.4	87.1
1979	69.6	94.7	95.7	96.4	92.4	76.9	52.3	87.1
1980	60.8	92.2	95.2	95.4	92.8	82.8	48.5	85.6
1981	61.3	90.4	95.4	95.1	95.0	81.5	52.0	86.1
1982	67.5	88.5	96.0	96.4	91.2	76.4	41.9	85.6
1983	56.0	92.0	94.6	92.6	94.0	79.7	41.4	84.1

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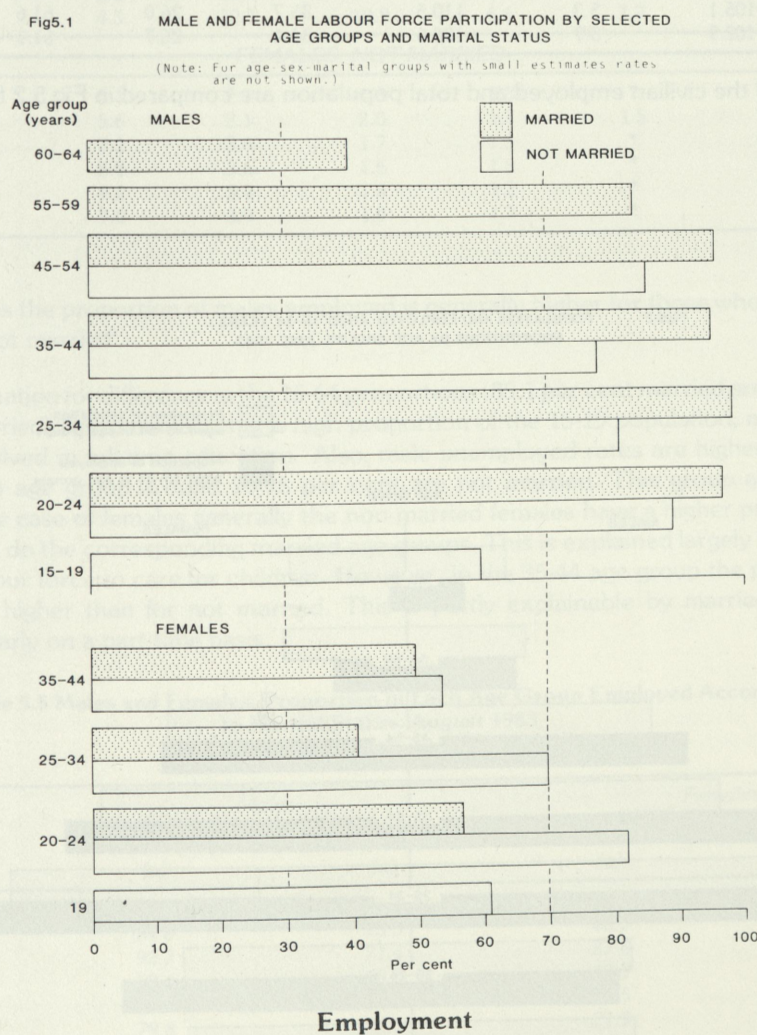


**Table 5.2 Participation Rates by Age and Sex at August 1971 to 1983 (a)**  
(Per Cent) — continued

August	Age Group							
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
<b>FEMALES</b>								
1971	45.1	44.0	38.6	46.8	35.3	28.8	21.7	39.3
1972	51.5	52.9	36.8	47.2	37.1	30.5	16.6	41.2
1973	50.8	53.9	34.9	49.5	45.6	31.7	16.6	42.9
1974	49.6	58.0	42.4	53.7	41.7	28.9	11.4	44.3
1975	51.7	59.1	42.3	53.8	45.1	23.9	16.4	45.3
1976	51.2	60.3	43.3	47.6	47.8	25.9	11.9	44.8
1977	56.0	60.3	47.1	55.0	46.2	27.7	11.7	47.6
1978	53.5	61.8	42.7	51.8	43.0	28.2	*	45.1
1979	59.8	64.0	50.5	57.8	50.3	27.9	10.6	50.4
1980	56.7	68.7	46.1	50.3	43.0	23.0	*	46.8
1981	53.6	63.3	48.4	58.6	51.3	24.8	*	48.7
1982	60.1	58.3	48.4	50.6	46.9	29.4	*	47.1
1983	57.7	65.9	44.6	50.6	41.5	25.3	*	46.0

(a) 1971 to 1977 rates are based on 1976 Census benchmarks; 1978 onwards rates are based on 1981 Census benchmarks and usual residence concepts.

Fig 5.1 illustrates male and female labour force participation rates for selected age groups by marital status. Where the age-sex-marital status group estimate is small no rate is shown. Married males have a higher labour force participation than those not married. The reverse applies to females.



During the latter part of the 1970s and early 1980s the number of employed in Tasmania has stagnated. Over the period 1979-1982 there was some growth in the total number employed. This was mainly accounted for by an increase in the number of employed women. However, since then total employment has fallen back to around the



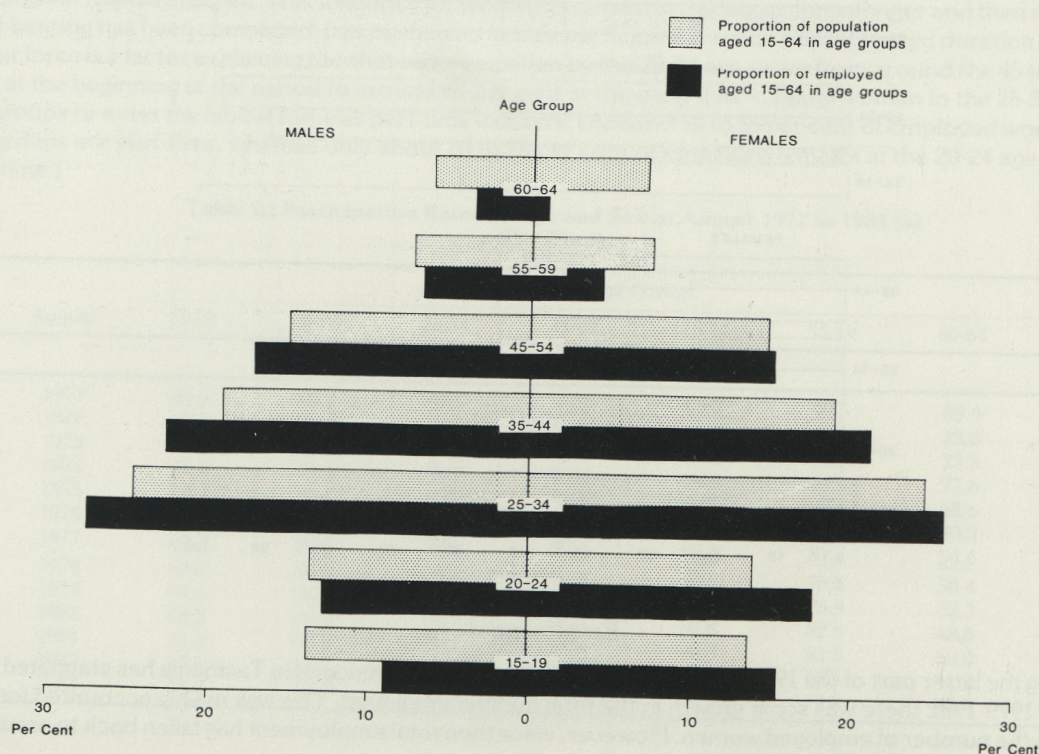
1978 levels. Total male employment has fallen over the period by approximately three to four thousand — the drop has been in full-time employment. Survey estimates indicate a marginal increase in the number of males employed part-time. In the case of women the number employed full-time has been fairly stable over the 1978-1983 period. Part-time employed women increased by around three thousand from 1978 to 1983 and the early 1984 survey results indicate some further increases in part-time female employment.

**Table 5.3 Employment: Number of Males and Females ('000)**

Month	Males			Females			Persons
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total	
1978 February	108.1	4.2	112.3	35.1	19.5	54.5	166.8
August	107.1	4.2	111.4	33.2	21.2	54.5	165.8
1979 February	109.0	4.0	113.0	36.0	19.9	55.9	168.9
August	108.2	3.7	111.9	37.4	23.6	61.0	172.9
1980 February	108.8	4.4	113.2	38.7	21.2	59.9	173.1
August	109.1	3.5	112.6	37.4	22.5	59.9	172.5
1981 February	110.3	5.1	115.4	38.2	22.0	60.2	175.6
August	106.7	5.0	111.7	36.4	23.6	60.0	171.6
1982 February	107.9	4.7	112.6	36.7	19.3	56.0	168.6
August	104.0	4.9	108.9	34.6	23.5	58.2	167.0
1983 February	100.7	4.9	105.6	36.5	22.3	58.8	164.5
August	101.4	5.9	107.3	34.1	23.5	57.6	164.9
1984 January	102.6	5.7	108.3	36.6	22.4	59.0	167.3
February	103.5	6.2	109.7	35.6	21.0	56.5	166.3
March	104.9	6.4	111.3	36.8	24.6	61.4	172.7
April	105.1	5.3	110.5	35.7	26.0	61.6	172.1
May	102.9	5.7	108.6	34.4	26.7	61.1	169.6

The proportion of the civilian employed and total population are compared in Fig 5.2 for age groups in the range 15-64 years.

**Fig 5.2 POPULATION AND EMPLOYED AGED 15-64 YEARS : PROPORTIONS BY AGE GROUPS JUNE 1982**





**Table 5.4 Employment: Number of Males and Females by Marital Status and Age at August**

August	Age Group							
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
<b>MALES: MARRIED</b>								
1978	*	5.0	24.0	20.1	17.8	6.6	4.4	78.0
1979	*	5.4	24.4	20.3	17.8	6.7	3.6	78.4
1980	*	6.4	25.4	20.7	17.1	7.3	3.4	80.5
1981	*	4.4	23.4	20.9	17.1	6.5	4.0	76.5
1982	*	4.5	23.1	21.8	16.7	6.6	2.9	76.5
1983	*	3.7	23.7	21.3	16.4	7.1	2.9	75.2
<b>MALES: NOT MARRIED</b>								
1978	11.0	9.7	5.7	1.9	2.1	*	*	31.7
1979	11.4	10.2	5.6	2.2	1.4	*	*	32.3
1980	10.1	9.2	5.6	1.9	2.1	*	*	30.8
1981	9.3	10.4	8.0	2.6	1.8	*	*	34.3
1982	10.3	8.7	6.8	3.2	1.9	1.1	*	32.3
1983	7.4	10.6	6.4	2.6	1.9	*	*	29.5
<b>FEMALES: MARRIED</b>								
1978	*	4.4	10.2	9.4	7.6	2.3	*	35.4
1979	*	4.3	12.6	10.8	9.0	1.5	*	39.2
1980	*	4.5	11.2	10.0	7.0	1.8	*	35.6
1981	*	4.4	10.5	12.3	8.1	2.2	*	38.2
1982	*	3.6	11.6	11.0	8.0	2.2	*	37.2
1983	*	4.3	10.1	10.9	6.6	1.7	*	34.3
<b>FEMALES: NOT MARRIED</b>								
1978	7.8	5.1	2.3	1.6	1.3	*	*	18.8
1979	8.3	5.6	2.1	2.0	1.3	1.5	*	21.1
1980	8.7	7.2	3.6	1.7	1.5	*	*	24.0
1981	7.8	5.9	3.6	1.6	1.8	*	*	21.7
1982	7.3	6.2	3.4	1.6	1.2	*	*	20.7
1983	7.3	7.0	3.9	1.9	1.7	*	*	22.8

Within age groups the proportion of males employed is generally higher for those who are married than for males described as 'not married'.

Part of the explanation for difference in the 15-64 proportions (85.1 per cent married are employed as against 59.2 per cent not married) lies in the fact that a high proportion of the 15-19 population, most of whom are not married, are still involved in full-time education. Also, male unemployed rates are highest for this age group. Likewise in the 20-24 age group around 70-75 per cent are not married. This group also experiences high unemployment. In the case of females generally the non-married females have a higher proportion of their age group employed than do the corresponding married age groups. This is explained largely by the fact that many women leave the labour force to care for children. However, in the 35-44 age group the proportion of married women employed is higher than for not married. This is partly explainable by married women re-entering employment, particularly on a part-time basis.

**Table 5.5 Males and Females: Proportion in Each Age Group Employed According to Marital Status: August 1983 (Per Cent)**

Age group (years)	Males		Females	
	Married (a)	Not Married (a)	Married (a)	Not Married (a)
15-19	*	40.1	*	40.6
20-24	84.8	73.5	46.3	71.2
25-34	92.7	71.4	37.6	54.7
35-44	88.4	69.0	47.9	43.8
45-54	90.3	68.5	39.5	47.7
55-59	79.8	*	21.9	*
60-64	40.9	*	*	*
15-64	85.1	59.2	37.8	47.3

(a) As a proportion of the total civilian population in each particular age group — marital status category.



The industries that have shown significant growth over the 1978-1983 period are all dominated by government (federal, state or local) employment. Manufacturing industry employment has dropped by approximately 3 000.

**Table 5.6 Employed Persons by Industry**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Industry	August					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Agriculture, forestry & fishing .....	13.9	14.5	12.4	14.7	13.2	13.9
Mining .....	2.6	3.5	4.6	4.9	5.4	3.3
Manufacturing .....	28.0	27.7	27.3	27.6	24.3	25.0
Electricity, gas & water .....	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.1	6.0
Construction .....	15.3	15.2	15.1	14.1	13.5	10.4
Wholesale & retail trade .....	32.5	35.8	32.5	31.8	29.5	29.1
Transport & storage .....	9.2	8.8	8.4	7.5	8.4	8.0
Communication .....	3.4	4.3	3.8	4.4	4.0	4.1
Finance, property, etc .....	11.6	10.2	14.0	10.4	9.8	11.7
Community services .....	27.9	28.5	29.8	33.4	35.2	31.4
Recreation & personal services .....	9.4	12.7	11.3	11.2	11.6	12.0
Other .....	8.6	8.3	9.5	8.1	8.1	10.1
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>165.8</b>	<b>172.9</b>	<b>172.5</b>	<b>171.6</b>	<b>167.0</b>	<b>164.9</b>

### Unemployment

Unemployment rates for both males and females have increased over the period 1978 to 1984. Rates for not married males have increased from around the 12 to 14 per cent level in 1978-1979 to around the 18 to 20 per cent level in 1983 and early 1984. Changes for females have not been as great — the overall increase for all females being about one percentage point.

**Table 5.6 Unemployment Rates Males and Females by Marital Status: 1978-1984**  
(Per Cent)

Period	Males			Females		
	Married	Not married	All	Married	Not married	All
1978 February	2.9	12.8	6.0	5.1	17.5	10.0
August	2.8	11.1	5.3	4.5	13.7	7.9
December	2.3	14.7	6.1	4.4	15.9	8.9
1979 February	2.3	14.0	5.9	3.7	15.9	8.6
August	2.1	12.2	5.2	4.4	17.1	9.3
December	2.6	12.6	5.8	4.8	18.9	10.6
1980 February	2.1	13.6	5.8	5.1	15.9	9.7
August	2.3	10.6	4.7	2.8	10.4	6.0
December	2.7	12.5	6.0	5.1	16.6	10.0
1981 February	2.4	11.4	5.5	4.6	14.8	8.9
August	3.3	12.7	6.4	4.6	15.4	8.8
December	3.6	15.2	7.6	4.6	20.6	11.5
1982 February	4.3	16.0	8.4	5.7	19.6	11.7
August	4.2	18.0	8.7	3.4	21.0	10.5
December	6.1	22.2	11.3	4.6	21.4	11.6
1983 February	7.0	22.2	12.1	4.4	18.1	10.4
August	6.2	18.7	10.1	3.2	19.6	10.6
December	5.4	19.5	10.1	5.7	17.3	10.9
1984 January	5.9	20.8	11.0	3.5	19.0	10.8
February	5.2	21.5	10.7	5.9	20.4	12.6
March	5.6	16.5	9.1	6.4	17.6	11.1
April	5.1	17.8	9.2	5.9	20.0	11.8
May	5.3	19.2	9.7	6.4	18.7	11.4

Table 5.7 compares Tasmanian unemployment and Australian rates over the period February 1978 to February 1984 for males, females and persons.



**Table 5.7 Unemployment Rates, Males, Females and Persons: Tasmania and Australia (Per Cent)**

Period	Males		Females		Persons	
	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust	Tas	Aust
1978 February	6.0	6.2	10.0	9.7	7.4	7.5
August	5.3	5.5	7.9	7.6	6.2	6.2
1979 February	5.9	5.9	8.6	9.1	6.8	7.0
August	5.2	4.9	9.3	7.7	6.7	5.9
1980 February	5.8	5.5	9.7	8.8	7.2	6.7
August	4.7	5.0	6.0	7.4	5.2	5.9
1981 February	5.5	5.2	8.9	8.3	6.7	6.3
August	6.4	4.7	8.8	7.2	7.2	5.6
1982 February	8.4	5.8	11.7	9.2	9.5	7.1
August	8.7	6.3	10.5	7.5	9.4	6.7
1983 February	12.1	10.1	10.4	11.8	11.5	10.7
August	10.1	9.9	10.6	9.9	10.3	9.9
1984 February	10.7	9.8	12.6	11.3	11.3	10.4

Unemployment rates are highest in age groups 15-19 and 20-24 years. During 1983, both male and female unemployment rates for 15-19 year olds were consistently around the 25 per cent level or higher. In other words around one in four of the labour force in this age group was seeking a job. For males aged 20-24 unemployment rates were usually in the 17 to 20 per cent range. Female rates in this age group were considerably lower—normally around the ten per cent level. The lower female rate reflects the effects of women in this age group opting out of the labour force as a result of marriage and child-bearing, and others not seeking employment due to discouragement and known lack of job opportunities.

The male rates for the 15-19 and 20-24 age groups are considerably higher than rates experienced over the 1978 year. For both age groups the 1983 monthly rates were usually 8 or more percentage points higher than corresponding 1978 monthly rates. For females aged 15-19, 1983 rates were generally higher than corresponding 1978 rates, however, the magnitude of the difference in percentage points, was not as great as for males in the same age group. The 1983 and 1978 rates for females aged 20-24 were similar.

For males in the 25-34 age group there has been a substantial increase in the unemployment rate from around the three to five per cent level, to around the eight to eleven per cent level. (This change in unemployment rates is reflected in the proportion of unemployment beneficiaries receiving married rate benefits. In August 1978, 23.1 per cent of beneficiaries were on the married rate; by August 1983 the proportion had increased to 29.1 per cent.)

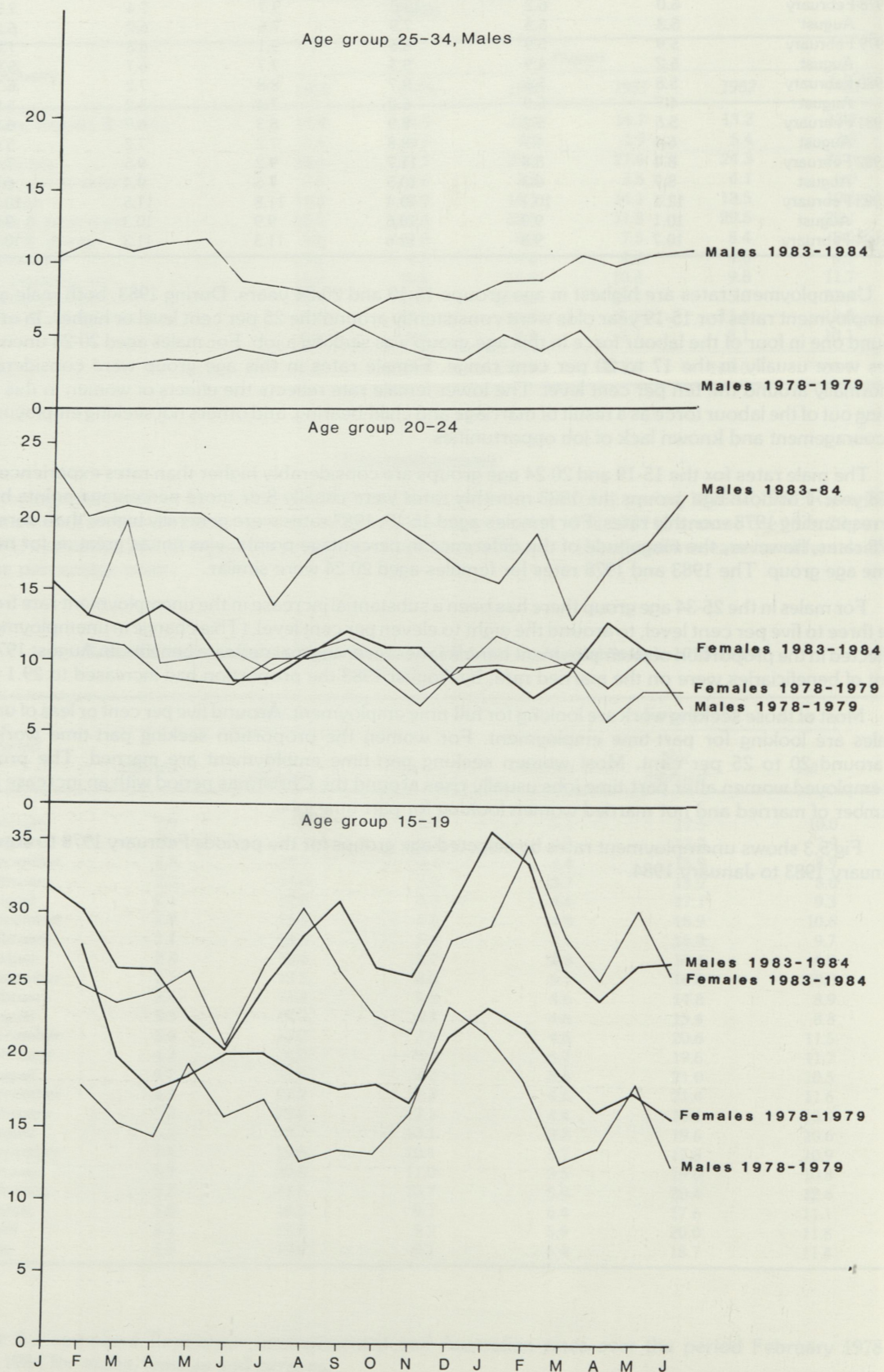
Most of those seeking work are looking for full-time employment. Around five per cent or less of unemployed males are looking for part-time employment. For women the proportion seeking part-time work is higher—around 20 to 25 per cent. Most women seeking part-time employment are married. The proportion of unemployed women after part-time jobs usually rises around the Christmas period with an increase in both the number of married and not married women looking for part-time jobs.

Fig 5.3 shows unemployment rates by selected age groups for the periods February 1978 to June 1979 and January 1983 to January 1984.



Fig5.3

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES : SELECTED AGE GROUPS FEB 1978 TO JUNE 1979  
AND JAN 1983 TO JUNE 1984





The following table shows the numbers unemployed by age and sex over the period August 1978 to August 1983.

**Table 5.8 Number of Unemployed by Sex and Age Group ('000)**

Age Group August	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-64	All ages
<b>MALES</b>					
1978	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.6	6.2
1979	2.5	1.1	*	1.6	6.2
1980	1.9	1.2	*	1.9	5.6
1981	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.9	7.6
1982	2.5	3.4	2.8	1.8	10.4
1983	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.5	12.1
<b>FEMALES</b>					
1978	2.0	1.1	*	*	4.7
1979	3.2	1.3	1.2	*	6.3
1980	1.9	*	*	*	3.8
1981	2.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	5.8
1982	3.6	1.2	1.3	*	6.8
1983	3.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	6.8

As well as the increase in the number unemployed, information indicates that duration of unemployment has increased. Unemployment benefit statistics compiled by the Department of Social Security indicate a substantial increase in the median duration that recipients remain on benefit. In the late 1970s the median duration was around five months. The August 1983 survey of benefit recipients indicated a median duration for receiving unemployment benefit of about 8 months. (An ABS population survey in July 1983 of persons looking for work showed a median duration for current unemployment period of 32.2 weeks for Tasmania. The median duration at the Australian level was 26.1 weeks.) This combined with higher unemployment rates shows a substantial worsening of the situation for job seekers over the 1970s into the early 1980s in Tasmania. The August 1983 DSS survey of persons on unemployment benefit showed 58 per cent of Tasmanian benefit recipients had been receiving unemployment benefits for more than six months. (The corresponding Australian figure was 54 per cent.) There have also been changes in the family/dependant characteristics of benefit recipients. In August 1978 only 23 per cent of recipients were paid at the married rate. However, for the 1983 survey the proportion receiving the married rate had increased to 29 per cent. Also the proportion receiving the married rate with children had increased from 17 per cent in August 1978 to 21 per cent in August 1983. These changes are significant when considered in terms of increased family hardship and additional demands placed upon government and voluntary welfare agencies for additional family type aid.

Table 5.9 shows the proportion of unemployment benefit recipients by duration of receipt for the August 26 1983 survey of recipients.

**Table 5.9 Unemployment Benefits Recipients 26 August 1983:  
Duration of Benefit Receipt (a)  
(Per Cent)**

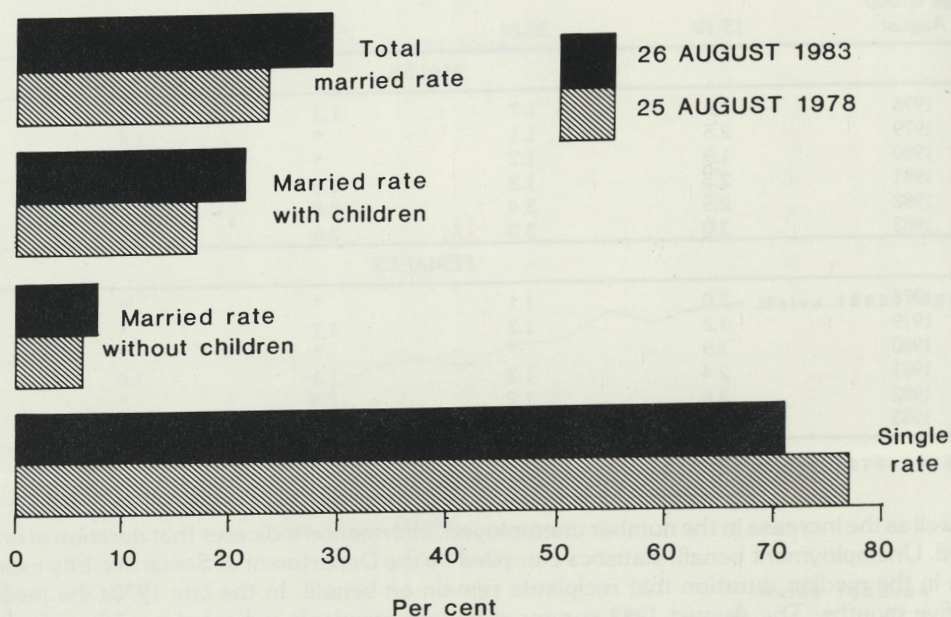
Duration	Tasmania	Australia
Less than or equal to three weeks .....	7.0	7.4
Over three weeks less than or equal to seven weeks .....	7.5	8.6
Over seven weeks less than or equal to thirteen weeks .....	10.7	11.0
Over thirteen weeks less than or equal to six months .....	16.3	19.0
Over six months less than or equal to twelve months .....	22.5	26.3
Over twelve months less than or equal to eighteen months .....	13.3	12.1
Over eighteen months less than or equal to twenty four months .....	7.7	5.9
Over twenty four months less than or equal to thirty six months .....	8.1	5.2
Over thirty six months .....	6.9	4.6
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Source: Department of Social Security, Quarterly Survey of Unemployment Benefit Recipients, 26 August 1983.

Fig 5.4 illustrates changes in proportions receiving the various unemployment benefit rates in August 1978 and August 1983.



Fig5.4 PROPORTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT RECIPIENTS BY RATE :  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY SURVEYS 25 AUGUST 1978  
AND 26 AUGUST 1983



In July for recent years the ABS has run, in conjunction with the monthly labour force survey, a survey of persons who had recently looked for work. Of those looking for work in Tasmania 47 per cent stated the main difficulty in finding work was no vacancies at all. At the Australian level the proportion giving this as the main difficulty was only 34 per cent. A further 17 per cent of those looking for work in Tasmania reported the main difficulty as no vacancies in their line of work.

#### Not in the Labour Force

For the age group 15-64 years around 15 per cent of males are not in the labour force and about 50-53 per cent of females are not labour force participants. For males the 15-19 age group account for approximately one-third of those neither working nor actively seeking work. Most of those not in the labour force in this age group are full-time participants in education. The next most significant group are men aged 60-64. This group accounts for almost 25 per cent of males 15-64 not in the labour force. Early retirement, retrenchment and associated difficulties in finding another job at the older ages are the main reasons for this age group's high contribution to the 'not in the labour force' category. About 25 per cent of women not in the labour force are in the age group 25-34. This age bracket encompasses the principal child-bearing years. Age group 15-19 years contributed a further 10-12 per cent to the 'not in labour force' group. As for males most of those not in the labour force in this age category are participants in full-time education.

Table 5.10 Persons Not in The Labour Force  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Age group years	August					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
MALES						
15-19	7.5	6.1	7.8	7.7	6.2	8.2
20-24	*	*	1.4	2.0	2.2	1.5
25-34	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.9
35-44	*	*	1.1	1.5	*	2.0
45-54	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.2
55-59	2.4	2.3	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.1
60-64	3.6	4.0	4.4	3.7	5.0	5.3
15-64	17.2	17.2	19.6	19.7	20.0	22.3
65 and over	15.0	16.2	16.2	16.8	18.0	17.5
TOTAL	32.2	33.4	35.8	36.5	38.0	39.8

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**Table 5.10 Not in The Labour Force**  
(<sup>000</sup>) — *continued*

Age group years	August					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
<b>FEMALES</b>						
15-19	9.2	8.0	8.6	8.8	7.5	7.8
20-24	6.6	6.3	5.7	7.1	7.9	6.5
25-34	17.8	15.7	17.7	18.4	17.4	18.9
35-44	10.8	9.7	11.8	10.2	12.8	13.3
45-54	11.9	10.3	11.6	10.0	10.7	11.8
55-59	7.4	7.6	8.2	7.7	7.3	7.7
60-64	8.1	8.1	8.3	9.0	9.1	9.0
15-64	71.8	65.6	71.9	71.2	72.7	74.9
65 and over	21.8	22.2	23.0	24.0	24.8	25.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93.6</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>100.1</b>

The majority of those not in the labour force are not looking for work. At the May 1984 survey, 87 per cent of males 15 and over were in this category and 93 per cent of females. A further 6 per cent of males were institutionalised and five per cent permanently unable to work. Three per cent of females were in institutions and two per cent were permanently unable to work.

### Labour Force by Small Area

The principal Bureau sources of labour force statistics are:

- the monthly population survey (MPS)
- the Population Census

The former is a sample survey and estimates are currently available at a state level with a Hobart Statistical Division/rest of state dissection for some of the statistics. The only source of small area ABS labour force statistics cross classified by demographic and other characteristics is the Population Census. This can be used to produce labour force statistics for standard statistical geographic units (e.g. local government areas) or special user geographic areas.

Concepts underlying census and monthly population survey statistics are the same. However, a series produced from the two collections will differ for a number of reasons:

- **Coverage** — census includes members of permanent Australian defence forces, overseas residents in Australia at Census date, members of non-Australian permanent defence forces stationed in Australia. All these are excluded from monthly population surveys. Census excludes Australian residents overseas. However residents overseas for six weeks or less are included in the monthly population survey estimates.
- **Timing** — Census relates to 30 June, while monthly population survey data are collected over a two week period. For unemployed search time differs — one week for census purposes, and four weeks in respect of MPS.
- **Collection Method** — MPS estimates are sample based and data are obtained by personal interview. For census, data are obtained by self-enumeration (i.e. the householder fills in the form).
- **Population** — Census statistics are as counted and where counted with no adjustment for undercount or usual residence. MPS estimates are usual residence based.

As well as ABS labour force statistics, information from Department of Social Security and Department of Employment and Industrial Relations administrative systems are available. The statistics relate to persons receiving unemployment benefits from DSS and persons registered with Commonwealth Employment Services and registered to unfilled vacancies. These statistics are available on regional office and/or post code basis.

Table 5.11 shows the proportion of the population aged 15 years and over by labour force status. The proportion of the population unemployed in this table should not be confused with the unemployment rate which is calculated on the following basis:

$$\frac{\text{unemployed}}{(\text{employed plus unemployed})} \times 100$$

(The employed plus unemployed equals the labour force)



If the small LGAs, in terms of population, of Bruny, Gormanston and Strahan, are excluded then the local government areas with lowest proportions of males employed are:

- *Portland, Glamorgan, Tasman.* All are local government areas situated along the east coast of Tasmania and contain holiday-shack areas and tend to be favoured as retirement areas. Economic activity in each is similar — rural, forestry, fishing and tourism. All have a higher proportion of their male population 15 and over and in the 65 and over age category. (Around 17 per cent compared with a state average of approximately 12 per cent.)
- *Hobart.* 65.1 per cent of Hobart's male population aged 15 years and over was employed at census with a state average of 71.6 per cent. Factors contributing to this include: a relatively high proportion of the male population 15 and over in the 65 and over bracket (14 per cent); full-time students residing in the LGA; unemployed and others not in the labour force taking advantage of the lower cost rental accommodation in the inner parts of Hobart; and location of hospital and other care facilities within the LGA.

The local government areas of Zeehan, Waratah and King Island have extremely high proportions of their male population 15 and over employed. Waratah and Zeehan are predominately mining areas with a fairly hostile climate. Zeehan was also affected by location of HEC construction camps within its boundaries at census. Both LGAs have also been affected by an influx of workers to new mining developments over the past 20 years or so years. The proportion of their 15 and over male population aged 65 or more is under three per cent. Both LGAs also had low proportions of their male population unemployed. It seems that unless men have a job they move out of these LGAs. In the case of King Island, mining and agriculture are the main economic activities. The LGA is isolated and offers little incentive to remain unless work is available. It also has a low proportion of its 15 and over male population in the 65 and over age bracket.

Excluding Bruny, Gormanston and Strahan, the LGA with the lowest proportion of its female population employed was Brighton, with 28.3 per cent of women aged 15 and over employed. Brighton has a high proportion of its population in the state housing suburbs of Bridgewater-Gagebrook. Most of the women have young families and secondly there are only very limited employment opportunities within the immediate environment for women. Several predominantly rural LGAs (e.g. Bothwell, Fingal, Green Ponds, Ross) have low proportions of women employed.

In terms of the proportion of the unemployed population aged 15 years and over, Brighton stands out. For males in this age group 14.5 per cent were unemployed with the corresponding figure for females being 4.8 per cent. This translated into unemployment rates at census of approximately 17 per cent for males and 14 per cent for females — more than double the Tasmanian male rate and 70 per cent higher than the Tasmanian female rate.

Table 5.11 Proportion of Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Labour Force Status

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Males			Females		
		Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force
Hobart	(H)	65.1	5.7	29.2	43.8	3.4	52.8
Glenorchy	(H)	70.2	6.3	23.5	40.2	3.7	56.1
Clarence	(H)	71.9	6.6	21.5	41.3	3.4	55.4
Brighton	(H) (S)	70.3	14.5	15.3	28.3	4.8	67.0
Kingborough	(H) (S)	74.0	5.0	21.1	43.4	2.9	53.6
New Norfolk	(H) (S)	66.8	5.4	27.7	34.6	4.4	61.0
Sorell	(H) (S)	69.7	6.7	23.6	38.1	3.2	58.5
Bothwell	(S)	70.5	4.2	25.0	28.9	1.7	70.2
Bruny	(S)	46.1	14.9	40.2	22.3	5.2	73.1
Esperance	(S)	66.8	7.1	26.3	30.2	3.8	65.1
Glamorgan	(S)	64.3	4.3	31.6	37.7	3.5	58.8
Green Ponds	(S)	69.2	7.2	23.6	35.9	4.1	60.1
Hamilton	(S)	78.7	4.6	16.9	33.8	3.7	62.3
Huon	(S)	72.5	5.7	21.9	37.7	4.1	58.3
Oatlands	(S)	69.7	5.7	24.8	35.6	2.9	61.3
Port Cygnet	(S)	65.3	10.5	23.9	33.4	3.6	62.8
Richmond	(S)	74.2	4.8	20.8	43.4	3.3	53.4
Spring Bay	(S)	74.4	6.9	20.5	36.0	3.5	60.2
Tasman	(S)	64.9	7.3	27.0	46.2	2.9	50.5
HOBART STAT DIV		69.2	6.4	24.4	41.2	3.5	55.3
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		70.1	6.3	23.5	35.9	3.8	60.3

continued next page



Table 5.11 Proportion of Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Labour Force Status — continued

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Males			Females		
	Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force
Launceston	67.3	4.9	27.7	37.0	3.5	59.5
Beaconsfield	74.7	3.7	21.7	40.9	3.1	56.0
Deloraine	67.8	6.3	26.1	37.0	2.8	60.0
Evandale	76.8	2.6	20.8	37.1	2.6	60.2
George Town	79.0	5.4	15.5	31.8	4.0	64.4
Lilydale	73.1	5.2	21.6	40.6	3.5	55.9
Longford	74.2	3.7	22.2	38.2	3.1	58.7
St Leonards	75.1	4.8	20.1	38.7	3.5	57.8
Westbury	76.6	4.4	19.1	40.8	3.1	55.0
Tamar Stat Subdivision	72.3	4.7	23.0	37.5	3.4	58.4
Campbell Town	71.5	3.0	25.3	35.5	3.9	60.4
Fingal	73.4	5.1	21.8	29.0	3.8	67.2
Flinders	74.2	4.9	20.3	55.4	4.1	40.4
Portland	61.4	6.4	32.1	37.1	3.5	59.4
Ringarooma	75.0	4.3	20.6	38.3	2.1	59.4
Ross	70.6	3.3	26.7	32.2	3.4	64.4
Scottsdale	76.4	3.5	19.8	39.8	2.5	57.8
North Eastern Stat Subdivision	72.5	4.5	23.0	37.4	3.1	59.5
NORTHERN STAT DIV	72.4	4.7	23.0	38.1	3.4	58.6
Burnie	74.0	6.1	19.9	36.2	4.6	59.3
Circular Head	76.3	3.6	20.1	42.1	3.4	54.5
Devonport	71.6	5.9	22.5	37.2	4.0	58.9
Kentish	68.4	8.6	22.9	35.7	4.0	60.3
King Island	89.1	1.1	9.9	50.2	2.9	47.3
Latrobe	69.3	6.6	24.3	38.4	3.3	58.3
Penguin	72.1	6.4	21.5	35.4	4.5	60.2
Ulverstone	68.5	6.0	25.5	34.2	3.9	61.9
Wynyard	72.7	4.7	22.7	36.7	3.7	59.6
North Western Stat Subdivision	72.5	5.7	21.8	37.1	4.0	59.0
Gormanston	54.0	16.0	38.0	11.9	—	83.3
Queenstown	80.0	3.7	16.3	38.3	3.1	58.6
Strahan	56.4	9.4	34.2	25.1	4.6	68.9
Waratah	91.1	1.3	7.7	35.4	0.7	63.7
Zeehan	92.6	1.8	5.5	37.4	2.7	60.1
Western Stat Subdivision	88.0	2.5	9.5	36.7	2.6	60.7
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	74.8	5.2	20.0	37.0	3.8	59.1
TASMANIA	71.6	5.6	22.8	39.0	3.6	57.5



Figure 5.5 shows the LGAs by male and female unemployment rates based on the 1981 Census results. LGAs are shown within their respective percentage bands in alphabetical order.

**Fig5.5 1981 CENSUS UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS  
MALES AND FEMALES**

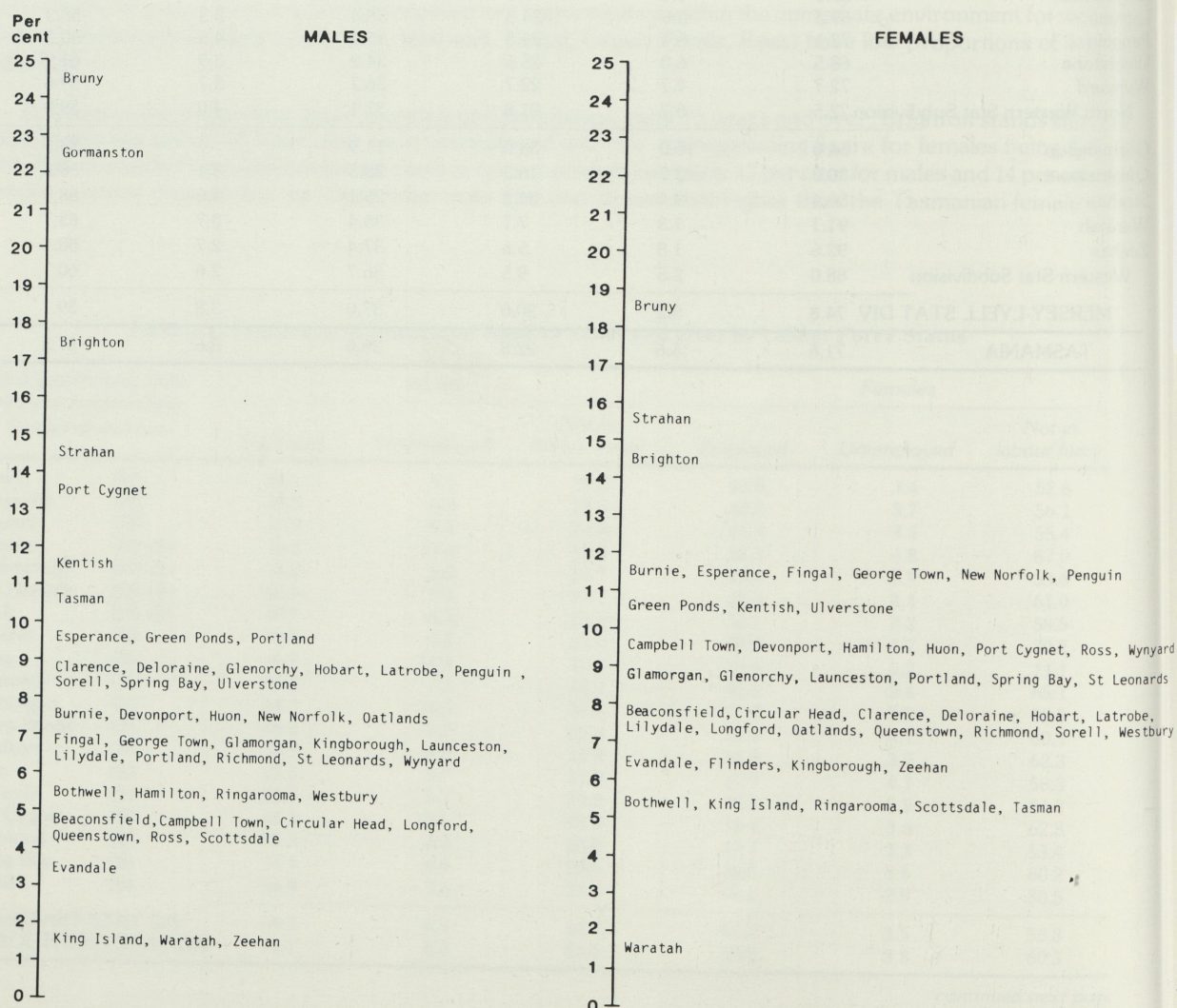




Table 5.12 Estimated Distribution of Unemployment Benefit Recipients by Local Government Area: Sept 1983 (a)  
(Per Cent)

<i>Local government area</i>	<i>Proportion of —</i>		<i>Local government area</i>	<i>Proportion of —</i>	
<i>Statistical subdivision</i>	<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>Estimated resident</i>	<i>Statistical subdivision</i>	<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>Estimated resident</i>
<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>benefit recipients</i>	<i>population aged 15-64, 30 June 1981</i>	<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>benefit recipients</i>	<i>population aged 15-64, 30 June 1981</i>
Hobart	9.4	11.8	Campbell Town	0.3	0.3
Glenorchy	9.6	10.3	Fingal	0.9	0.7
Clarence	9.6	10.6	Flinders	0.1	0.2
Brighton	4.6	2.0	Portland	0.9	0.5
Kingborough	2.6	4.1	Ringarooma	0.4	0.5
New Norfolk	2.5	2.3	Ross	0.1	0.1
Sorell	1.5	1.3	Scottsdale	0.8	1.0
Bothwell	0.2	0.2	North Eastern Stat Subdivision	3.6	3.4
Bruny	0.1	0.1	NORTHERN STAT DIV	26.9	27.2
Esperance	1.2	0.7			
Glamorgan	0.3	0.4	Burnie	5.6	4.8
Green Ponds	0.2	0.2	Circular Head	1.6	1.8
Hamilton	0.3	0.6	Devonport	6.5	5.5
Huon	1.3	1.1	Kentish	1.4	1.0
Oatlands	0.7	0.5	King Island	0.4	0.6
Port Cygnet	0.9	0.5	Latrobe	1.3	1.3
Richmond	0.4	0.4	Penguin	1.4	1.2
Spring Bay	0.4	0.4	Ulverstone	3.0	2.9
Tasman	0.4	0.3	Wynyard	3.0	2.7
HOBART STAT DIV			North Western Stat Subdivision	24.2	21.8
SOUTHERN STAT DIV	46.4	47.7			
Launceston	7.1	7.5	Gormanston	—	—
Beaconsfield	3.4	3.3	Queenstown	0.5	0.9
Deloraine	1.6	1.1	Strahan	0.1	0.1
Evandale	0.3	0.5	Waratah	0.2	0.5
George Town	1.7	1.7	Zeehan	1.6	1.7
Lilydale	1.9	2.2	Western Stat Subdivision	2.5	3.2
Longford	1.1	1.3	MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	26.7	25.1
St Leonards	4.6	4.7			
Westbury	1.5	1.5	TASMANIA	100.0	100.0
Tamar Stat Subdivision	23.3	23.8			

(a) Number of beneficiaries by postcode were allocated to LGA's on basis of: (i) postcodes within a single LGA to that LGA; (ii) postcodes split between LGA's were allocated to LGA components according to 1981 Census population relativities.

## Working Conditions

This section covers in summary form some of the main aspects of working conditions which impact upon qualitative aspects of employment.

## Superannuation Coverage

Over the period September 1982 - November 1982 information was sought as to whether persons were covered by superannuation schemes, and if not, whether they were covered by life assurance policies which may have been substituted for superannuation schemes. For Tasmanian workers who were employed and usually worked 20 hours or more, 47 per cent were covered by superannuation. (The corresponding Australian figure was 45 per cent.) Fifty-five per cent of Tasmanian employed males were covered by superannuation, compared with only 28 per cent of females. Coverage of employees in the government sector was higher than for employees in the private sector — 66 per cent for government as opposed to 43 per cent for the private sector.



**Table 5.13 Employed Persons Who Usually Worked 20 Hours or More Each Week in Main Job: Status of Worker, Private or Government Sector and Superannuation Scheme Coverage — September to November 1982: Tasmania**

Status of worker and sector	Number ('000)			Per Cent (a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Employers & self-employed						
Covered	5.8	*	6.4	31.5	14.0	28.2
Not covered	12.6	3.7	16.3	68.5	86.0	71.8
TOTAL	18.4	4.3	22.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees						
Private						
Covered	29.6	4.9	34.5	51.6	20.8	42.6
Not covered	27.8	18.7	46.4	48.4	79.2	57.3
TOTAL	57.5	23.6	81.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Government						
Covered	22.8	6.7	29.5	76.9	43.5	65.6
Not covered	6.9	8.7	15.5	23.2	56.5	34.4
TOTAL	29.6	15.4	45.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total						
Covered	52.4	11.6	64.0	60.2	29.8	50.8
Not Covered	34.6	27.3	62.0	39.8	70.1	49.2
TOTAL	87.0	39.0	126.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All employed persons						
Covered	58.2	12.2	70.4	55.2	28.2	47.4
Not covered	47.2	31.1	78.2	44.8	71.8	52.6
TOTAL	105.4	43.3	148.6	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Percentage total in each category shown.

### Earnings

In association with the August monthly labour force survey employed wage and salary earners (employees) are asked about weekly earnings and hours of work.

**Table 5.14 All Employees: Full-time or Part-time Status: Mean Weekly Earnings August 1978 to August 1983 (\$)**

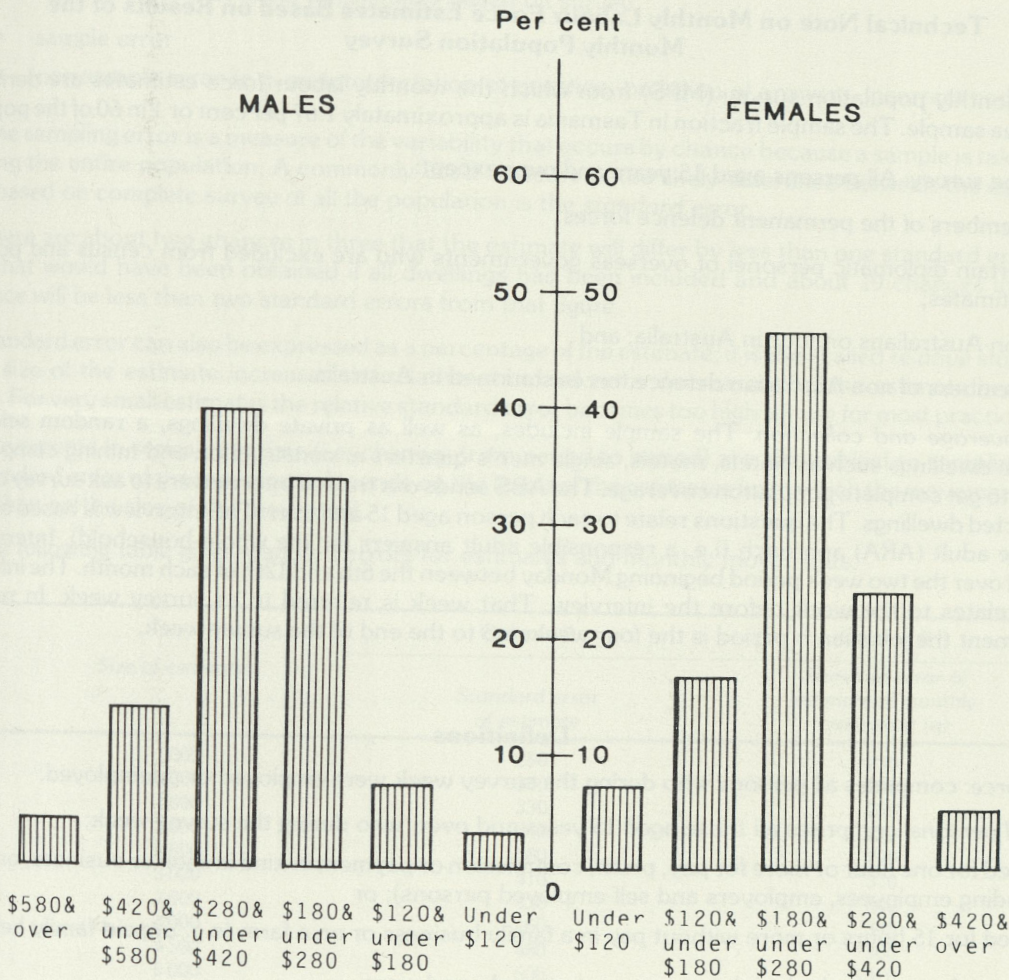
Particulars	Males		Females	
	Tasmania	Australia	Tasmania	Australia
Full-time				
1978	197	210	149	162
1979	208	225	168	174
1980	239	249	183	193
1981	266	277	211	218
1982	292	322	237	245
1983	323	341	259	267
Part-time				
1978	110	100	73	84
1979	80	100	85	90
1980	116	106	90	96
1981	88	112	102	108
1982	153	142	107	120
1983	141	156	124	127

The median earnings in Tasmania for full-time male employees in August 1983 was \$294 and for females \$241.



Fig 5.6 shows the proportion of full-time employees by broad category of weekly earnings from all jobs.

Fig5.6 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS  
IN ALL JOBS, AUGUST 1983



Hours Worked

The following table is based on results of the monthly labour force survey and relates to all persons classified as employed. An employed person may work nil hours in the survey period for any of the following reasons such as on recreation, sickness or long-service leave, on strike or locked out, on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of survey week, etc.

Table 5.15 Proportion of Employed Persons Aged 15 Years and Over by Hours Worked May 1984  
(Per Cent)

Hours worked	Males	Females
0	6.0	4.4
1-15	2.3	23.9
16-29	4.7	16.3
30-34	7.4	6.4
35-39	17.0	17.1
40	32.2	20.5
41-44	5.4	3.5
45-59	15.8	6.0
60+	9.2	1.7
TOTAL	100.0	100.0
Average Hours	39.4	27.8



Just over 30 per cent of employed males who worked 60 hours or more worked in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting. (This industry accounted for only nine per cent of total employed males.) The higher proportion of employed females working 1-15 and 16-29 hours simply reflects the higher incidence of part-time employment for females.

### Technical Note on Monthly Labour Force Estimates Based on Results of the Monthly Population Survey

The monthly population survey (MPS) from which the monthly labour force estimates are derived, is a random area sample. The sample fraction in Tasmania is approximately 1.67 per cent or 1 in 60 of the population.

*Scope of the survey:* All persons aged 15 years and over except:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments who are excluded from census and population estimates;
- non-Australians on tour in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces stationed in Australia.

*Sample coverage and collection:* The sample includes, as well as private dwellings, a random selection of non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, single men's quarters at construction and mining camps. This is necessary to get complete population coverage. The ABS sends out trained interviewers to ask survey questions at the selected dwellings. The questions relate to each person aged 15 and over. The interview is based on the any responsible adult (ARA) approach (i.e. a responsible adult answers for the whole household). Interviews are conducted over the two week period beginning Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview. That week is referred to as survey week. In relation to unemployment the job search period is the four weeks up to the end of the survey week.

### Definitions

*Labour force:* comprises all persons who during the survey week were employed or unemployed.

*Employed persons:* comprises all those aged 15 years and over, who during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (e.g. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work, and were
  - (i) on paid leave; or
  - (ii) on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; or
  - (iii) stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; or
  - (iv) on strike or locked out; or
  - (v) on worker's compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or
  - (vi) receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

*Unemployed persons:* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed (as defined above) during the survey week and:

- (a) had actively looked for full-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and:
  - (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
  - (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;
- (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or a part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons of bad weather or plant breakdown.



*Persons not in the labour force:* are those aged 15 years and over who were not classified as employed or unemployed. They include persons keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution, voluntary inactive, permanently unable to work, inmates of institutions, etc.

### Reliability of Estimates

Two types of error can occur in estimates based on survey:

- sample error
- non-sample error (e.g. misinterpretation of question, omission of answers, incorrect coding).

The sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample is taken instead of counting the entire population. A commonly used measure of the likely difference between the estimate and a figure based on complete survey of all the population is the *standard error*.

There are about two chances in three that the estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors from that figure.

Standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate; it is then called *relative standard error*. As the size of the estimate increases the relative standard error decreases; i.e. the estimate becomes more reliable. For very small estimates the relative standard error becomes too high for use for most practical purposes.

Movements in series over time (i.e. changes from period to period) are also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the movement depends on the levels of the estimates from which the movement is obtained rather than on the size of the movement.

The following table gives standard errors for estimates and monthly movements.

Size of estimate	Column A	Column B
	Standard error of estimate	Standard error of estimate of monthly movement (a)
1 000	250	210
1 500	300	250
1 800	330	260
2 000	340	270
2 500	380	290
3 000	410	310
3 500	430	330
4 000	460	340
4 500	480	360
5 000	500	370
6 000	530	390
10 000	640	460
20 000	810	550
50 000	1 100	690
100 000	1 300	810
200 000	1 500	920

(a) Applies to adjacent month movements.

If for example, the size of the estimate were 20 000 Column A of the above table indicates that there were:

- approximately 2 chances in three that if all dwellings had been included in the survey the figure would have been in the range  $20\,000 \pm 810$  i.e. between 19 190 and 20 810.
- 19 chances in twenty that the figure would have been between  $20\,000 \pm 1\,620$  i.e. between 18 380 and 21 620.

For monthly movements it is necessary to refer to Column B of the table. Column B relates to the standard error of the monthly movement to the larger estimate. Suppose the estimate for June is 18 000 and for July 20 000 i.e. an increase of 2 000. Using Column B and relating the standard error to the larger estimate there are:

- two chances in three that if all dwellings had been included the movement would have been in the range  $2\,000 \pm 550$  i.e. 1 450 to 2 550.
- 19 chances in twenty that the movement would have been in the range 900 to 3 100.



## DATA REFERENCES

## ABS Catalogue No.

## Title

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

2401.6	Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1981; Characteristics of the Population and Dwellings in Local Government Areas, Tasmania (T).
2449.0	Cross-Classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, Tasmania, 1981 Census (C/O).
6102.6	Labour Statistics Tasmania (T).
6203.0	The Labour Force Australia (monthly) (C/O).
6204.0	The Labour Force Australia (annual) (C/O).
6222.0	Characteristics of Persons Looking for Work in Australia (T).
6319.0	Superannuation Australia, September to November 1982 (C/O).
—	Tasmania's Labour Force 1976 to 1982 (T).
—	Quarterly Survey of Unemployment Benefit Recipient, (Department of Social Security).



## Chapter 6

### INCOME AND SOCIAL SECURITY

#### Introduction

Income is the principal determinant of individual and family command over goods and services and hence material well being. The statistics in this Chapter about income are concerned with levels and distribution of income. They have been obtained from the Census and ABS surveys of the population and employers. As there is a significant proportion of the population who are reliant upon state welfare payments for their income, statistics of benefit recipients are also included. The largest group are the age pensioners. Others include persons who are unable to either work or find work due to lack of jobs, illness or invalidity, or family situations (eg single parents caring for children). These persons form, in terms of income level, a generally disadvantaged group within the community. Statistics of such beneficiaries, based on department of Social Security data, provide a guide to the size and distribution of this section of the population.

#### Income

The 1976 Census included an income question — the first time such a question had been asked in the post-war Censuses. The question, with minor modification, was repeated in the 1981 Census. It is possible to compile income statistics on a number of bases from the Census:

- individual;
- family; and
- household.

*Family Income:* for statistical output from the Census, is defined as the sum of the midpoints of the income ranges (from no income to over \$26 000) of the head of the family and spouse where both are present on Census night or the individual income of the head where no spouse is present. Income of other family members is not included in calculating family income. Family coding was only done for private dwelling occupants, hence family income relates only to families living in private dwelling.

*Household Income:* relates to households in occupied private dwellings and is the sum of the mid-points of the ranges of the individual incomes of all persons 15 years of age and older in the dwelling on Census night.

For the purpose of this Chapter and for assessing income distribution within the community, the two income concepts used are individual and family. In general terms these best indicate individual and family material well being.

The 1981 Census non-response rate for the income question for Tasmania was 5.7 per cent. (Nationally non-response was 5.6 per cent.) For males Tasmanian non-response rate was 4.4 per cent, and the female rate was 7.1 per cent. Approximately 70 per cent of non-responding females were married, and it is likely that a significant proportion did not answer because they were not earning an income from work and hence believed the question was not applicable. For males 67 per cent of those answering 'none' to the income question were in the 15-19 age group. It is likely that the majority of these respondents were engaged in full-time education. About 18 per cent of women with nil income were in the 15-19 age group.

Follow-up studies have shown that there is a general tendency for respondents to understate their income. Family allowance and interest from investments are often not included. Likewise persons on age or other welfare benefits do not regard the benefit payment as income and hence answer 'none' to the Census income question. Studies have also shown that non-response to the income question is highest for low level income earners.

Census calculated family incomes are affected by the presence or otherwise of spouse-income earners on Census night. Only persons actually at the dwelling on Census night are included on the Census schedule. Hence if a spouse is absent and earns income, then that income will not be included for calculation of family income based on the Census. Likewise recent changes in family structure in terms of head of family and spouse will affect Census calculated family income.



The above factors should be kept in mind when using income statistics based on the Census. Census does, however, provide the most comprehensive data source about general income levels and distribution for the population by various demographic, family and labour force characteristics.

### Annual Individual Income

Table 6.1 shows males and females by income category at the 1981 Census. When looking at the table it is worth bearing in mind the following points:

- (i) the age pension rate on an annual basis at 30 June 1981 was approximately \$3 600 for single pensioners and \$6 000 for married couples living together;
- (ii) the annual unemployment benefit for a single person aged 18 years or over without dependants was approximately \$3 000, for a single person 18 years and over with dependants \$3 600, and a married person with no children \$6 000; and
- (iii) average weekly earnings for male employees have increased by around 30 to 35 per cent from 30 June 1981 to 30 June 1984.

Fourteen per cent of Australian males reported incomes exceeding \$18 000 at the 1981 Census compared with 11 per cent of males in Tasmania. Only a marginal difference existed for women — two per cent at the Australian level reported incomes over \$18 000 and 1.6 per cent for Tasmania.

Table 6.1 Annual Individual Income: Males and Females, Census 30 June 1981.

Annual individual income (\$)	Males		Females	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
None	7 380	4.8	31 060	19.8
1 - 999	1 310	0.9	11 010	7.0
1 000 - 2 000	2 450	1.6	6 580	4.2
2 001 - 3 000	12 260	8.0	17 110	10.9
3 001 - 4 000	10 390	6.8	20 720	13.2
4 001 - 6 000	11 440	7.5	18 820	12.0
6 001 - 8 000	11 630	7.6	11 410	7.3
8 001 - 10 000	14 300	9.4	8 430	5.4
10 001 - 12 000	20 710	13.6	9 040	5.8
12 001 - 15 000	22 870	15.0	5 860	3.7
15 001 - 18 000	13 920	9.1	3 190	2.0
18 001 - 22 000	8 850	5.8	1 470	0.9
22 001 - 26 000	3 920	2.6	420	0.3
Over 26 000	4 550	3.0	550	0.4
Not stated	6 650	4.4	11 060	7.1
TOTAL	152 620	100.00	156 740	100.0

ABS surveys of earnings put the average earnings for all male employees at approximately \$14 500 to \$15 500 and for all female employees in the range \$9 500 to \$10 500 in 1981.

A further reference point when looking at income based on Census or other sources is poverty lines. These are calculated by the Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne, for various types of family income unit. The poverty lines are included in this publication as a general reference guide. Poverty lines shown are for all costs including housing.

Table 6.2 Selected Poverty Lines Australia (\$) per Week (a)

Type of family income unit	September quarter	
	1981	1983
Head in workforce —		
Single person .....	88.50	109.10
Couple .....	118.40	145.90
Couple and 3 children .....	190.10	234.40
Single parent and 1 child .....	113.60	140.10
Head not in workforce —		
Single person .....	71.70	88.50
Couple .....	101.60	125.30
Couple and 3 children .....	173.40	213.80
Single parent and 1 child .....	96.80	119.40

(a) Poverty lines shown are for all costs including housing.

Source: Poverty Lines Australia, Institute of Applied Economics, University of Melbourne.



Census median incomes have been calculated for males and females excluding those not stating their income. Census income includes income from all sources such as wages, salaries, self-employment, investments, social welfare, family allowance, etc. For males the Census median income was \$11 600 and females \$3 350. (If females reporting income as 'none' are excluded, then median income for females receiving income was \$4 200). The much lower female median income reflects factors such as higher prevalence of part-time work, many female employees worked in lower paid jobs and a higher proportion of women derived income only from benefit sources such as family allowance or pensions.

Table 6.3 shows median incomes by age group. For females median income is shown for:

- (i) all females responding to the question; and
- (ii) females who reported some income (i.e. both 'not stated' and none have been excluded from the median calculation).

**Table 6.3 Median Annual Individual Income (\$) by Age Group and Sex, Census 30 June 1981 (a)**

Age group (years)	Males	Females	
		All responding to Census income question	Respondents receiving income (b)
15 - 19 .....	(c) 3 850	2 350	4 550
20 - 24 .....	10 050	6 350	7 600
25 - 29 .....	12 000	2 850	5 550
30 - 34 .....	10 900	2 600	4 800
35 - 39 .....	13 200	3 700	5 400
40 - 44 .....	13 050	4 300	6 700
45 - 49 .....	12 500	3 700	6 500
50 - 54 .....	12 050	3 100	4 850
55 - 59 .....	11 150	2 950	3 650
60 - 64 .....	4 700	3 050	3 250
65 and over .....	6 100	3 400	3 400
All .....	11 600	3 350	4 200

(a) Not stated are excluded from median income calculation; persons giving 'none' as answer are included.

(b) Females reporting 'none' to income question are excluded.

(c) Median income for males aged 15-19 who received income (i.e. excluding respondents answering 'none') was \$5 300.

Most males and females in the 'never married' category with income 'none' are in the age group 15-19 and are full-time participants in education. At the Census, only 11 per cent of males were receiving annual incomes over \$18 000 and just under two per cent of women were in this income category.

**Table 6.4 Annual Individual Income by Marital Status: Males and Females 15 years and Over: Census 30 June 1981**

Individual income (\$)	Never married	Now married	Separated not divorced	Divorced	Widowed	Total
MALES						
None	5 880	1 210	90	150	60	7 380
1 - 999	810	410	30	30	30	1 310
1 000 - 2 000	1 700	630	30	40	50	2 450
2 001 - 3 000	4 000	7 280	290	360	320	12 260
3 001 - 4 000	3 130	4 610	350	590	1 700	10 390
4 001 - 6 000	5 090	5 280	200	330	540	11 440
6 001 - 8 000	4 750	6 070	230	340	250	11 630
8 001 - 10 000	4 800	8 450	340	490	210	14 300
10 001 - 12 000	5 040	14 150	530	740	250	20 710
12 001 - 15 000	3 980	17 370	570	750	210	22 870
15 001 - 18 000	1 620	11 460	340	400	100	13 930
18 001 - 22 000	760	7 560	180	270	70	8 850
22 001 - 26 000	260	3 440	90	100	30	3 920
Over 26 000	270	4 030	90	120	40	4 550
Not stated	3 040	3 120	150	190	150	6 650
TOTAL	45 130	95 070	3 500	4 900	4 020	152 620

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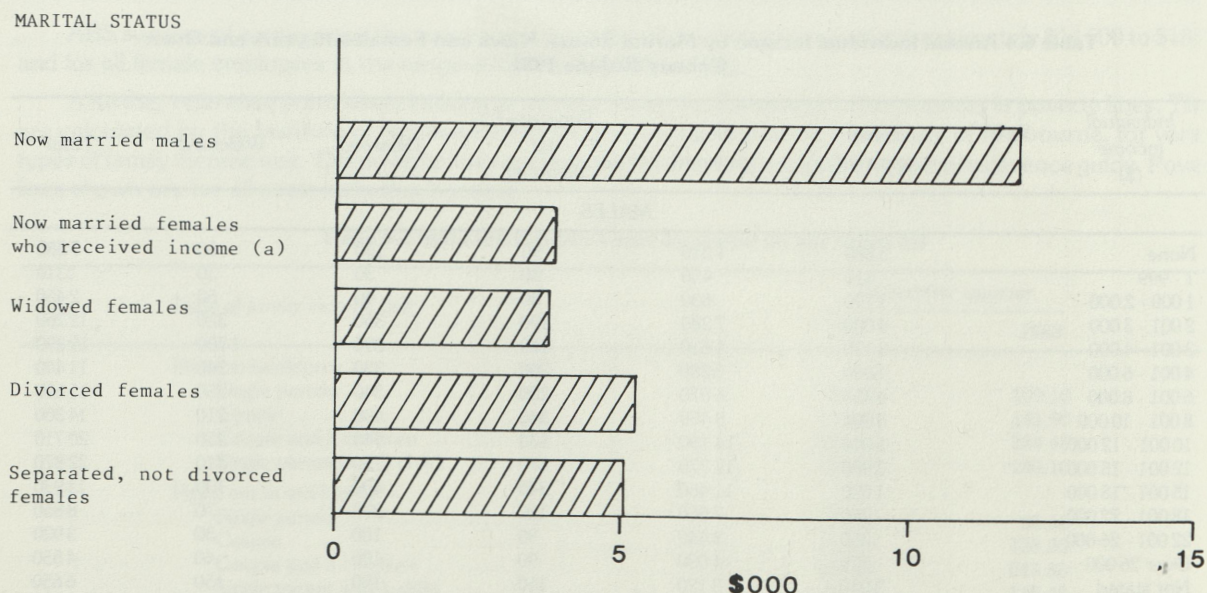
**Table 6.4 Annual Individual Income by Marital Status: Males and Females 15 years and Over:**  
Census 30 June 1981 — Continued

Individual income (\$)	Never married	Now married	Separated not divorced	Divorced	Widowed	Total
FEMALES						
None	5990	24 430	170	200	280	31 060
1 - 999	930	9 790	80	120	100	11 010
1 000 - 2 000	1 890	4 300	60	80	60	6 580
2 001 - 3 000	3 200	11 860	310	370	1 370	17 110
3 001 - 4 000	3 410	6 690	700	1 150	8 780	20 720
4 001 - 6 000	5 560	7 410	1 270	1 540	3 040	18 820
6 001 - 8 000	3 710	5 130	520	720	1 340	11 410
8 001 - 10 000	2 580	4 550	300	440	570	8 430
10 001 - 12 000	2 420	5 390	290	530	420	9 040
12 001 - 15 000	1 580	3 460	190	390	250	5 860
15 001 - 18 000	780	2 030	80	150	150	3 190
18 001 - 22 000	280	960	50	90	90	1 470
22 001 - 26 000	70	280	10	30	40	420
Over 26,000	50	410	10	20	60	550
Not stated	2 510	7 690	110	140	600	11 060
TOTAL	34 940	94 370	4 130	5 960	17 350	156 740

Fig 6.1 shows median annual individual incomes for selected marital statuses. For widows the median annual individual income is similar to that received if either a widower pension or age pension was the sole source of income. (Widows are entitled to receive the age pension at age 60. 80 per cent of widows were aged 60 or over at the 1981 Census.) Around 64 per cent of widows reporting income were within the general income range of the widows pension, indicating that the widows pension was their only source of income. Likewise, median income for separated not divorced, and divorced women was close to what would be received in pension or other welfare benefits if they were the main income source.

Fig 6.1

**MEDIAN INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL INCOME BY  
SELECTED MARITAL STATUS:  
CENSUS 30 JUNE 1981**

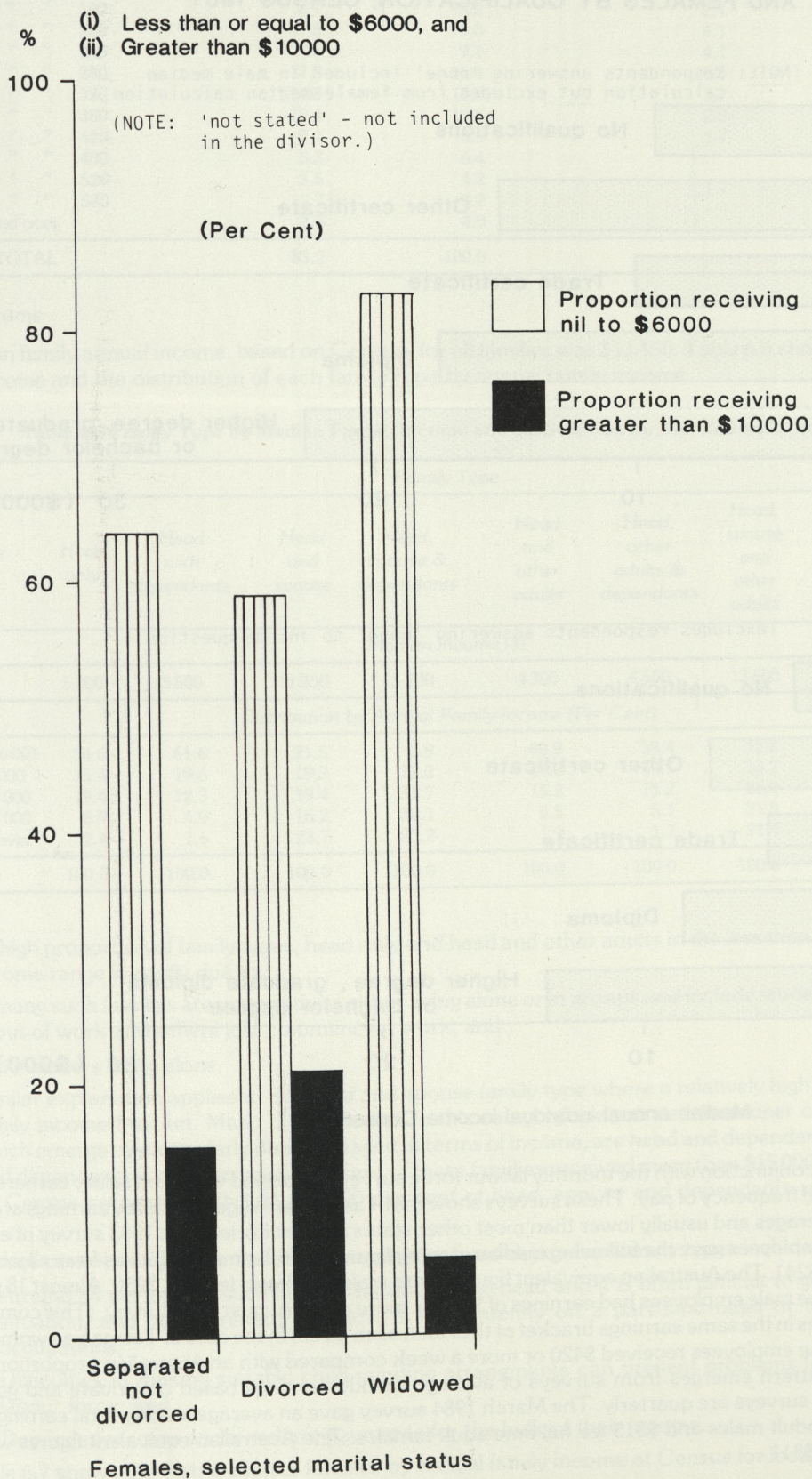


(a) Now married females who reported income 'none' are excluded from the Median Calculation.



Table 6.4 and Fig 6.1 indicate that women who are separated but not divorced, divorced or widowed are heavily dependent upon welfare benefits for much of their income. They are generally low income recipients. This is further illustrated in Fig 6.2.

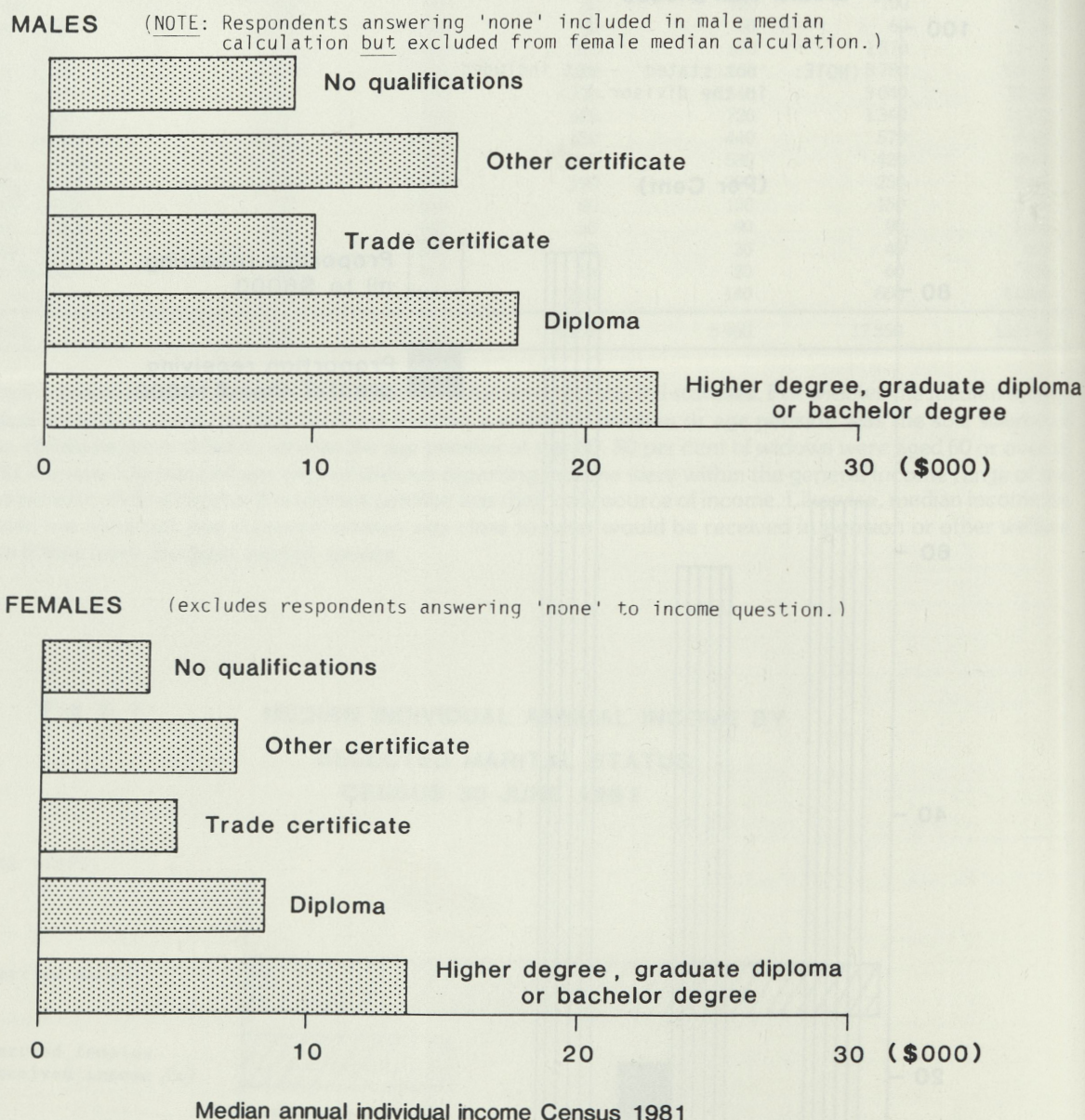
**Fig 6.2 FEMALES BY SELECTED MARITAL STATUS:  
PROPORTION RECEIVING ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL INCOME**





Qualifications have a significant effect upon income. Fig 6.3 shows median annual individual income for males and females. The median income for females has been calculated on a different basis from the male calculation i.e. male respondents answering 'none' are included; female respondents answering 'none' have been excluded.

**Fig 6.3 MEDIAN ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL INCOME MALES AND FEMALES BY QUALIFICATION, CENSUS 1981**



In August, in conjunction with the monthly labour force survey, employed wage and salary earners are asked about earnings and frequency of pay. These surveys show that Tasmanian wage and salary earnings are generally below national averages and usually lower than most other states and territories. The 1983 survey of earnings by wage and salary employees gave the following median earning figures for full-time employees from all jobs as males \$294 and females \$241. The Australian equivalent figures were males \$309 and females \$250. Almost 18 per cent of Tasmanian full-time male employees had earnings of \$420 or more at the August 1983 survey. (This compares with 21 per cent of males in the same earnings bracket at the Australian level.) In the case of Tasmanian women only 5.4 per cent of full-time employees received \$420 or more a week compared with an Australian proportion of 7.6 per cent. A similar pattern emerges from surveys of average weekly earnings based on private and government employers. These surveys are quarterly. The March 1984 survey gave an average weekly total earnings figure of \$388 for full-time adult males and \$315 for full-time adult females. The Australian equivalent figures were males \$401 and females \$311.



Table 6.5 All Employees: Weekly Earnings in All Jobs and Full-Time or Part-Time Status, August 1983.

Weekly earnings (\$)	Males		Females	
	('000)	Per Cent	('000)	Per Cent
Under 120	2.5	3.0	2.3	7.3
120 and under 160	3.3	4.0	2.9	9.1
160   "   "   180	2.7	3.2	2.4	7.6
180   "   "   220	7.5	9.0	4.1	12.9
220   "   "   240	7.6	9.1	4.1	12.9
240   "   "   280	12.8	15.4	6.6	20.8
280   "   "   320	14.8	17.8	3.7	11.7
320   "   "   380	10.4	12.5	2.3	7.3
380   "   "   420	7.1	8.5	1.7	5.4
420   "   "   480	5.3	6.4	) 1.7	5.4
480   "   "   520	3.5	4.2		
520   "   "   580	2.7	3.2		
580 and over	3.3	4.0	)	
TOTAL	83.2	100.0		

## Family Income

Median family annual income, based on Census, for all families was \$11 450. Table 6.6 shows family types by median income and the distribution of each family type by annual family income.

Table 6.6 Family Type by Median Family Income and Distribution by Annual Family Income.

Family Type									
Income (\$)	Head only	Head with dependants	Head and spouse	Head, spouse & dependants	Head and other adults	Head, other adults & dependants	Head, spouse and other adults	Head, spouse, other adults & dependants	All families
Median Income (\$)									
Median	5 300	5 600	11 950	15 700	4 300	4 550	13 600	15 700	11 450
Distribution by Annual Family Income (Per Cent)									
Less than 6 001	54.0	61.6	21.5	2.8	60.9	58.4	15.2	3.9	26.7
6 001 - 10 000	15.4	19.6	19.3	12.2	16.0	19.5	14.7	13.5	15.5
10 001 - 15 000	19.4	12.3	19.4	31.7	15.8	15.2	26.9	29.7	23.5
15 001 - 22 000	8.9	4.9	16.2	30.1	5.5	5.1	21.8	27.7	18.3
22 001 & over	2.4	1.6	23.7	23.2	1.9	1.7	21.4	25.2	15.9
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The high proportion of family types, head only and head and other adults in the less than or equal to \$6 000 family income range is partly due to:

- many such families are young adults either living alone or in groups and include students, young persons out of work and others just commencing work; and
- pensioners living alone.

A similar explanation applies to the head and spouse family type where a relatively high proportion are in a lower family income bracket. Many of the families in this category are married pensioner couples. Two family types, which emerge as particularly disadvantaged in terms of income, are head and dependants; and head, other adults and dependants. Less than seven per cent of these families received more than \$15 000 in family income at the 1981 Census compared with just over 50 per cent of head, spouse and dependants receiving more than \$15 000.

Reasons contributing to the low family income for head-dependant family types include:

- Around 85 per cent of such families have a female head and it is often difficult to get back into a work situation, and where re-entry occurs, it is frequently on a part-time basis or into the lower paid occupations;
- Difficulties in making suitable child-minding arrangements can present problems for re-enter into the labour force; and
- Dependence upon social welfare payments for the bulk of their income.

Table 6.7 shows the distribution of families by annual family income at Census for local government areas.



Table 6.7 Distribution of Families by Annual Family Income Census 1981 (a)  
Annual Family Income  
(Per Cent)

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Annual family income (\$)							
		None	Less than 6 000	6 000 to 10 000	10 001 to 15 000	15 001 to 18 000	18 001 to 22 000	22 001 to 26 000	26 001 and over
Hobart	(H)	1.2	26.9	14.6	20.6	8.0	8.8	6.1	13.7
Glenorchy	(H)	0.9	26.8	14.5	24.6	9.2	10.1	7.5	6.4
Clarence	(H)	0.9	20.0	13.6	22.8	10.3	11.9	9.2	11.4
Brighton	(H) (S)	1.1	24.5	22.5	29.2	7.2	6.8	4.7	4.0
Kingborough	(H) (S)	1.3	17.3	12.9	20.7	9.1	12.8	9.8	16.2
New Norfolk	(H) (S)	0.8	23.8	13.3	28.0	8.8	8.4	8.5	8.4
Sorell	(H) (S)	1.2	29.6	15.5	24.9	7.4	7.8	6.4	7.1
Bothwell	(S)	1.7	30.2	29.4	17.9	6.4	4.3	3.4	6.8
Bruny	(S)	4.0	46.4	21.2	15.2	4.6	3.3	3.3	2.0
Esperance	(S)	1.8	31.3	22.1	23.3	4.9	6.1	4.3	6.1
Glamorgan	(S)	2.9	30.1	22.2	24.7	6.4	7.1	1.9	4.8
Green Ponds	(S)	0.7	33.2	18.9	22.3	7.0	4.0	5.3	8.6
Hamilton	(S)	2.2	24.1	18.1	26.6	9.1	8.4	4.3	7.3
Huon	(S)	0.8	27.0	19.6	24.2	7.1	9.7	6.0	5.6
Oatlands	(S)	1.9	32.9	25.0	19.6	5.0	5.9	2.4	7.2
Port Cygnet	(S)	2.0	36.5	22.0	15.9	7.3	7.3	3.5	5.4
Richmond	(S)	0.9	27.5	19.6	22.1	6.7	7.2	6.3	9.6
Spring Bay	(S)	1.6	23.7	17.4	29.5	10.0	6.2	3.9	7.7
Tasman	(S)	1.7	37.9	22.0	16.7	5.9	7.6	4.2	4.0
HOBERT STAT DIV		1.0	24.0	14.4	22.9	9.0	10.2	7.7	10.9
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		1.7	29.7	20.4	22.8	7.0	7.0	4.6	6.7
Launceston		0.9	31.1	17.3	21.7	7.6	8.2	5.6	7.8
Beaconsfield		1.0	20.4	14.1	22.9	9.8	12.4	8.0	11.4
Deloraine		1.7	33.6	22.1	23.5	4.9	5.0	2.8	6.3
Evandale		1.6	19.6	16.6	24.8	9.8	10.1	8.0	9.4
George Town		1.0	17.8	11.5	22.9	13.9	16.0	8.3	8.6
Lilydale		1.0	24.3	15.6	26.5	9.2	9.7	6.7	7.0
Longford		1.2	26.4	19.6	24.9	6.5	9.2	5.7	6.4
St Leonards		1.0	24.1	15.7	25.7	8.9	10.3	6.9	7.4
Westbury		1.0	26.6	17.6	25.4	7.1	8.6	7.7	5.8
Tamar Stat Subdivision		1.0	26.4	16.4	23.6	8.5	9.7	6.5	7.9
Campbell Town		0.6	30.6	26.3	19.5	6.6	6.4	4.7	5.3
Fingal		1.3	31.2	19.6	23.5	8.3	6.8	2.4	6.8
Flinders		1.5	26.0	19.9	24.5	4.5	7.6	7.6	8.5
Portland		2.5	37.1	19.0	19.0	6.4	7.4	2.7	5.9
Ringarooma		0.9	32.8	20.5	26.2	6.3	6.0	1.6	5.6
Ross		1.2	32.3	28.6	19.3	3.1	5.6	2.5	7.5
Scottsdale		1.3	26.5	20.8	26.2	5.8	8.3	5.0	6.1
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		1.4	30.6	21.0	23.5	6.4	7.2	3.7	6.2
NORTHERN STAT DIV		1.1	26.9	17.0	23.6	8.2	9.4	6.1	7.7
Burnie		1.2	25.2	13.2	25.2	9.7	9.4	6.9	9.2
Circular Head		1.3	25.0	15.5	25.3	8.1	9.1	6.0	9.6
Devonport		1.3	27.3	15.8	24.6	8.0	9.3	6.5	7.2
Kentish		1.2	31.0	18.4	24.0	8.2	6.5	5.2	5.5
King Island		1.0	15.4	12.4	21.9	10.9	13.7	9.1	15.8
Latrobe		1.2	27.2	17.8	25.9	7.3	7.6	5.8	7.2
Penguin		1.3	27.0	14.1	26.6	9.1	9.3	5.5	7.1
Ulverstone		1.6	30.3	16.0	25.2	7.4	8.5	5.1	6.0
Wynyard		1.5	26.0	15.4	25.0	9.9	8.6	6.5	7.0
North Western Stat Subdivision		1.3	26.7	15.2	25.0	8.6	9.0	6.3	7.8
Gormanston		4.4	48.9	15.6	26.7	—	4.4	—	—
Queenstown		1.4	23.6	9.8	23.1	11.6	14.9	5.7	9.8
Strahan		5.5	39.1	17.2	21.1	3.1	8.6	2.3	3.1
Waratah		0.8	5.6	3.1	20.3	12.7	23.8	16.1	17.5
Zeehan		0.8	6.2	2.9	21.6	16.3	18.1	13.6	20.6
Western Stat Subdivision		1.2	14.1	6.1	22.0	13.4	17.3	10.6	15.4
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV		1.3	25.5	14.4	24.7	9.1	9.8	6.7	8.5
TASMANIA		1.1	25.6	15.5	23.5	8.7	9.7	6.8	9.1

(a) Not stated are excluded from calculation of percentage distribution.



In Table 6.8, local government areas are ranked according to their median family incomes. In general terms the local government areas with the lowest median family incomes, based on census, are predominantly rural areas. The more urbanised local government areas with better and greater diversity of employment opportunities tend to be closer to the state median or above it. The two LGAs with highest median family income were Waratah (\$19250) and Zeehan (\$18500). These are predominantly mining areas with Zeehan also having significant Hydro-Electric Commission construction activity within its boundaries at the time of the Census. Both had low unemployment rates and few people over the age of 65 (i.e. few in dependancy situations).

**Table 6.8 Median Family Annual Income by Local Government Area (\$)**

<i>Tasmanian median family annual income: \$11 450</i>	
<i>Median family annual income by local government area (\$)</i>	
<i>Local government areas with median family annual income below \$11 450</i>	
(\$)	
Less than 7 850	Gormanston, Bruny, Strahan, Tasman, Portland
7 850 to 8 249	Port Cygnet, Oatlands, Bothwell
8 250 to 8 649	Deloraine
8 650 to 9 049	Ross, Campbell Town
9 050 to 9 449	Glamorgan, Ringarooma, Green Ponds, Esperance
9 450 to 9 849	Fingal
9 850 to 10 249	Kentish, Launceston, Scottsdale
10 250 to 10 649	Brighton, Flinders, Richmond, Ulverstone, Huon, Longford
10 650 to 11 049	Latrobe, Westbury, Hamilton
11 050 to 11 449	Sorell, Wynyard, Penguin, Circular Head, Devonport, Glenorchy
<i>Local government areas with median family annual income equal to or above \$11 450</i>	
\$	
11 450 to 11 849	Hobart, Lilydale, St Leonards
11 850 to 12 249	Evandale, Burnie
12 250 to 12 649	New Norfolk, Spring Bay
12 650 to 13 049	—
13 050 to 13 449	Beaconsfield, Clarence, King Island, Queenstown
13 450 to 14 649	George Town, Kingborough
14 650 and over	Zeehan, Waratah

### Social Security Benefit Recipients

The following table shows the number receiving various Commonwealth Social Welfare Benefits in Tasmania at 30 June over recent years.

**Table 6.9 Number of Benefit Recipients at 30 June ('000)**

30 June	Benefit type				
	Age	Invalid	Wives	"Widows" (a)	Supporting parent
1972	25.7	4.5	(a)0.9	3.2	—
1973	29.1	4.9	(b)1.5	3.6	—
1974	31.9	5.1	(b)1.7	3.9	0.9
1975	34.3	5.5	(b)1.8	4.1	1.3
1976	35.6	6.1	2.1	4.2	1.7
1977	37.0	6.6	2.4	4.6	1.8
1978	38.2	6.2	2.5	5.0	2.0
1979	38.9	6.4	2.6	5.2	2.1
1980	39.6	6.4	2.7	5.4	2.3
1981	40.0	6.5	2.6	5.2	3.5
1982	40.4	6.6	2.6	5.2	3.9
1983	40.8	6.8	2.6	5.1	4.0

(a) Includes pensions paid to deserted wives, divorcees as well as actual widows.

(b) Date closest 30 June.

Changes in the numbers of benefit recipients reflect two aspects — (i) administrative changes in eligibility rules such as changes in means test criteria, extension of coverage of the benefit or application of the eligibility rules; and (ii) natural growth in numbers who would be eligible if criteria remained constant e.g. an increase in the number of males and females in the age group eligible for age pensions. The other significant beneficiary recipient group are the



unemployed. Number of unemployment benefit recipients are shown in Table 6.10 for a similar period to that covered by Table 6.9.

**Table 6.10 Unemployment Benefit Recipients ('000)**

<i>Number on benefit at —</i>	<i>Number of recipients</i>	<i>Number on benefit at —</i>	<i>Number of recipients</i>
1 July 1972	1.7	30 June 1978	9.8
30 June 1973	2.3	29 June 1979	10.4
29 June 1974	3.0	27 June 1980	11.1
28 June 1975	4.4	26 June 1981	12.9
2 July 1976	7.2	2 July 1982	16.3
1 July 1977	7.1	1 July 1983	20.4

The number of unemployment benefit recipients differs from the estimated number of unemployed based on monthly population survey results for a number of reasons. These include:

- ABS estimates include persons seeking part-time or full-time work — to receive a benefit the person must be registered for full-time work;
- Unemployment benefit recipients are subject to means test — no income criteria are included by the ABS for determining unemployment status;
- Timing differences — benefit recipients are counts of payments made at a point in time, the ABS count relates to persons actively seeking work over a defined search period;
- Benefits recipients must register with the Commonwealth Employment Service — this requirement does not apply to ABS estimates of unemployment;
- ABS estimates are based on persons identified as actively seeking work in the survey search period — it is possible for a benefit recipient not to have undertaken such activity in the survey search period;
- ABS includes persons who are not eligible for unemployment benefit e.g. spouses of employed persons, persons voluntarily unemployed have a waiting period before receiving benefits; and
- Unemployment benefit recipient counts depend upon eligibility criteria and counting procedures. These are subject to change over time period shown. The ABS estimates are conceptually consistent in terms of scope, coverage, definition and counting rules over time.

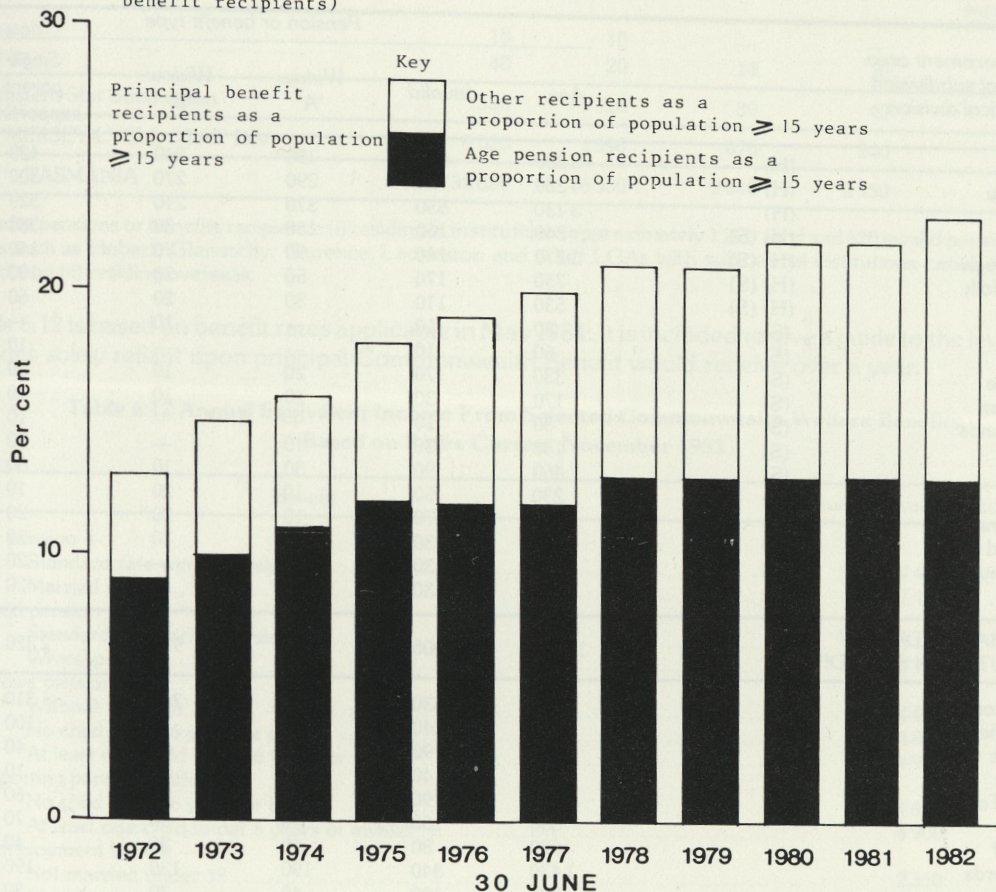
The previous two tables relating to benefit recipients indicate that around 25 per cent of Tasmania's population aged 15 years and over was dependent (partially or fully) upon Commonwealth funded social welfare payments in June 1982. This compares with less than 15 per cent in June 1972. Two benefit recipient types account for most of this increase — age pensioners which have increased by almost 60 per cent over the period. Part of the increase has been due to the increased number of persons in the eligible age groups which went up 31 per cent over the period. The other component of growth relates to changes made to eligibility criteria for the aged pension. Unemployment benefit recipients increased more than tenfold over the same period. Changes in eligibility criteria were insignificant compared to the impact of deterioration in the labour market and lack of job opportunities.

In Fig 6.4, the number on unemployment benefits closest to 30 June are included in the calculation of percentages. Likewise for 'wives' pension recipients for years 1972 to 1975 inclusive.



**Fig 6.4** NUMBER OF PRINCIPAL TYPES OF COMMONWEALTH BENEFIT RECIPIENTS AS A PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER AT 30 JUNE

(Note: Benefit recipient types included are age, invalid, wives and widows pensions, supporting parent benefits and unemployed benefit recipients)



An alternative means of assessing the changing pattern of population dependency upon welfare payments is to relate the number of benefit recipients to the population aged 15-64. This population contains the vast majority of the community's productive income earners. Table 6.10 shows for the selected major Commonwealth Benefit recipient categories the number per thousand of the Tasmanian population aged 15 to 64.

**Table 6.10 Selected Welfare Benefit Recipients per Thousand of Population Aged 15-64 Years at 30 June.**

Year	Age	Invalid	Wives	Widows	Supporting Parent	Unemployed (a)
1973	117	20	(a)6	15	—	9
1976	137	24	8	16	7	28
1979	146	24	10	20	8	39
1982	147	24	9	19	14	59

(a) Count of recipients nearest to 30 June.

An ABS survey in September 1983 of persons who retired from full-time work at age 45 years or more showed that nationally 54 per cent of males were dependent upon age, invalid and like pensions for their main source of income and a further 16 per cent and were dependent on war pensions. Only 26 per cent derived their main income from superannuation, life insurance and like schemes or investments. In the case of women who retired from full-time work at age 45 years or more, 57 per cent were dependent upon invalid, age and similar pensions for their main source of income. Approximately seven per cent derived most of their income from investments and only four



per cent obtained their main income from superannuation, life insurance and like schemes.

Estimated benefit recipients by major benefit types by local government area are shown in Table 6.11. Benefit recipients have been allocated to LGAs based on postcodes. Where a postcode covers more than one LGA then the allocation has been on census based population relativities.

**Table 6.11 Estimated Pensioner and Benefit Recipients by Local Government Area (a)  
Principal Pensions or Benefits 6 April 1984**

Source: Department of Social Security postcode tables.

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Pension or benefit type				
		Age	Invalid	Widow 'A'	Widow 'B'	Single parent supporting
Hobart	(H)	5 330	680	190	240	420
Glenorchy	(H)	4 280	750	290	270	500
Clarence	(H)	3 130	550	370	210	520
Brighton	(H) (S)	340	160	150	30	380
Kingborough	(H) (S)	1 270	140	90	70	140
New Norfolk	(H) (S)	730	170	50	30	100
Sorell	(H) (S)	530	110	30	20	60
Bothwell	(S)	80	10	—	10	—
Bruny	(S)	60	10	—	—	10
Esperance	(S)	330	70	20	10	30
Glamorgan	(S)	170	30	10	10	10
Green Ponds	(S)	80	10	—	—	10
Hamilton	(S)	130	30	10	—	20
Huon	(S)	460	90	30	10	50
Oatlands	(S)	230	50	10	20	10
Port Cygnet	(S)	240	70	10	20	20
Richmond	(S)	190	30	10	10	10
Spring Bay	(S)	170	30	10	—	20
Tasman	(S)	130	30	10	10	20
HOBERT STAT DIV SOUTHERN STAT DIV }		17 870	3 000	1 280	970	2 320
Launceston		4 670	530	290	200	310
Beaconsfield		1 290	240	90	70	100
Deloraine		560	90	30	30	40
Evandale		240	40	10	10	10
George Town		360	90	70	20	60
Lilydale		630	150	70	60	70
Longford		630	80	40	20	40
St Leonards		1 430	340	190	130	190
Westbury		700	100	40	30	30
Tamar Stat Subdivision		10 500	1 660	810	560	850
Campbell Town		150	30	10	—	20
Fingal		240	50	10	20	20
Flinders		70	10	—	—	—
Portland		280	70	20	10	20
Ringarooma		140	40	10	10	10
Ross		60	10	—	—	—
Scottsdale		300	70	20	20	30
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		1 240	280	80	70	100
NORTHERN STAT DIV		11 740	1 940	890	630	950
Burnie		1 710	300	160	100	220
Circular Head		580	120	30	30	60
Devonport		2 440	400	220	160	260
Kentish		340	80	20	20	20
King Island		140	20	10	10	10
Latrobe		500	90	30	30	40
Penguin		440	70	20	30	50
Ulverstone		1 500	190	90	90	130
Wynyard		1 040	190	70	50	90
North Western Stat Subdivision		8 670	1 470	650	500	880
Gormanston		10	—	—	—	—
Queenstown		240	70	20	20	30
Strahan		50	20	—	10	10

continued on next page



**Table 6.11 Estimated Pensioner and Benefit Recipients by Local Government Area (a)**  
Principal Pensions or Benefits 6 April 1984 — Continued

Source: Department of Social Security postcode tables.

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Pension or benefit type				
	Age	Invalid	Widow 'A'	Widow 'B'	Single parent supporting
Waratah	10	10	—	—	10
Zeehan	40	20	10	10	30
Western Stat Subdivision	350	120	30	40	70
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	9 020	1 590	670	540	950
TASMANIA	38 630	6 530	2 840	2 150	4 220

(a) Excludes pensions or benefits recipients: (i) residing in institutions (approximately 1 200 aged and 520 invalid pensioners). Affects LGAs such as Hobart, Glenorchy, Clarence, Launceston and other LGAs with substantial institutions caring for the aged or invalid; and (ii) residing overseas.

Table 6.12 is based on benefit rates applicable in May 1984. It is included to give a guide to the level of income that persons solely reliant upon principal Commonwealth Benefit would receive over a year.

**Table 6.12 Annual Equivalent Income From Selected Commonwealth Welfare Benefits**  
Based on Rates Current November 1983

Benefit	Annual equivalent income (a)
Age pension —	
Standard rate without children .....	4 450
Married rate .....	(b) 7 450
Invalid pension —	
Standard rate without children .....	4 450
Wives' pension .....	3 700
Widows pension —	
Without children .....	4 450
No child under 6 years or invalid .....	4 800
At least one child under 6 years or invalid .....	4 900
Supporting parent benefit —	
No child under 6 years or invalid .....	4 800
At least one child under 6 years or invalid .....	4 900
Unemployment benefit —	
Not married under 18 .....	2 350
18 years or more not married .....	3 850
Married (any age) (c) .....	7 450

(a) Rounded to nearest \$50

(b) Combined annual income from pension for married couple

(c) Includes benefit for spouse but excludes additional benefits for children.

#### DATA REFERENCES

##### ABS Catalogue No.

##### TITLE

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

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## **Chapter 7**

### **CRIME AND JUSTICE**

#### **Introduction**

Existence of crime in society is a significant cost both in terms of direct economic costs and the consequent loss of well-being by individuals who are the actual or potential victims.

Measurement of crime has largely been through administrative records of courts and police. These records cover only that proportion of crime which is detected or brought to the notice of police or comes before courts for resolution. This represents only part of the picture of crime in society. Much may go undetected or unreported. ABS surveys in 1975 and 1983 provide some information about crime which can be used to augment official records. Such surveys, while useful, do suffer from deficiencies associated with recollection of incidents, categorisation of the crime, omission, or in some cases possible exaggeration.

Despite improvements in classification of crime and implementation of standards to improve comparability over time, and between states there are still major data deficiencies. These include lack of data about motives, demographic characteristics of offenders and victims, costs associated with detection, apprehension, victim costs, etc.

The information in this chapter is largely based upon administrative based records (police, courts and prisons). At the time of writing, data from the 1983 survey relating to crime victims was not available. Reference is made to some summary data from the 1975 survey.

#### **Offences**

##### *Crime Victims Survey 1975*

The 1975 survey relating to crime victims was conducted over the three month period March to May 1975. The period covered was the 12 months prior to interview.

Results from the 1975 survey showed that for incidents covered by the survey nationally only 26 per cent were reported by the victim to the police. A further eight per cent of the incidents reported became known to the police either through the action of someone else or of the police. According to the survey, over 60 per cent of incidents reported by victims in the survey did not come to police attention. Nationally, theft (stealing in which the offender neither used nor threatened violence to any person or property and excluding stealing associated with break and enter or motor vehicle theft) accounted for 40 per cent of incidents reported in the survey. Only 35 per cent of theft cases, according to victims, became known to police. Nuisance calls were a further 19 per cent of all incidents —only 13 per cent of these became known to police. At the national level these two categories of incidents covered by the 1975 survey comprised 66 per cent of the incidents which did not become known to police.

Principal reasons given, at the national level, for not notifying police were:

- victim considered the incident too trivial, 29 per cent;
- police could not do anything about it, 15 per cent;
- notified somebody else instead, 7 per cent;
- victim could handle the situation him or herself, 6 per cent; and
- police would not bother to do anything about it, five per cent.

Table 7.1 is included to give an idea of victim rates for offences reported in the survey. Geographic coverage was limited to capital cities and other urban areas of the State. At the 1975 survey, Tasmania had a significantly lower number of victims per thousand of population than all other states except Queensland.



**Table 7.1 Crime Victims per Thousand Persons Aged 15 Years and Over  
Previous 12 Months March-May 1985**

Type of offence	State (a)						Total
	NSW (b)	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	
Number of victims per thousand persons							
Motor vehicle theft .....	9	8	6	6	8	7	8
Assault .....	10	9	12	18	18	12	11
Robbery .....	3	1	1	*	3	*	2
Theft .....	61	49	47	74	72	60	58
Fraud, forgery and false pretences .....	17	16	14	23	22	7	17
Nuisance calls .....	39	42	17	33	25	28	35
One or more offences (c) .....	123	113	88	139	130	105	117
Number of victims per thousand females							
Rape (c) .....	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
Indecent exposure (c) .....	5	11	2	9	8	7	7
Peeping (c) .....	17	19	11	15	10	10	16

(a) Capital cities and other urban areas only.

(b) Includes the Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Only females aged 15 years and over were asked whether they were victims of rape, indecent exposure and peeping. Victims of these offences were not included in the total unless they were victims of one or more of the other offences in the list.

The preceding section relating to crime victim statistics from the 1975 survey is included to give some perception of likely understatement of criminal offences in the community when measured by statistics derived from administrative records of police and courts.

#### *Offences Recorded and Cleared by Police*

These statistics are based on data recorded by the police and presented in annual reports of the Commissioner of Tasmania Police. They relate only to those offences either notified to the police or detected by them and recorded by the police as an offence. Table 7.2 excludes motor vehicle, traffic and related offences. (In terms of all offences recorded by police these account for around 60 per cent. Offences, in Table 7.2, are classified according to the Draft Australian National Classification of Offences (DANCO). DANCO was developed to bring uniformity into classification of statistics relating to the justice area and to allow better comparisons between states of such statistics. Offences per hundred thousand of mean population have been included to give an idea of the incidence with which various offences are recorded by the police.

**Table 7.2 Offences Recorded by Police, Tasmania:  
Summary (Excluding Motor Vehicle, Traffic and Related Offences)  
(Number)**

Class of offence	DANCO Subdivision (a)	Offences recorded			Offences recorded per hundred thousand of mean population		
		1980-81	1981-82	1982-82	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
Offences Against the Person							
Homicide .....	110	12	22	17	2.8	5.1	3.9
Assaults (excluding sexual assaults) .....	120	866	991	1 061	203.6	231.3	246.3
Sexual assaults and offences .....	130	143	138	127	33.6	32.2	29.5
Other offences against the person .....	140	42	27	50	9.9	6.3	11.6
Robbery and Extortion							
Robbery .....	210	45	72	52	9.9	16.8	12.1
Extortion .....	220	3	3	1	0.7	0.7	0.2
Breaking and Entering, Fraud and Other Offences Involving Theft							
Breaking and entering .....	310	3 801	4 469	5 126	893.7	1 042.9	1 190.2
Fraud and misappropriation .....	320	932	861	934	219.1	200.9	216.9
Receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods .....	330	150	155	167	35.3	36.2	38.8
Other theft .....	340	12 229	12 469	15 202	2 875.4	2 909.9	3 529.6
Property Damage and Environmental Offences							
Property damage .....	410	2 638	2 912	3 492	620.3	679.6	810.8
Environmental offences .....	420	33	53	39	7.8	12.4	9.1

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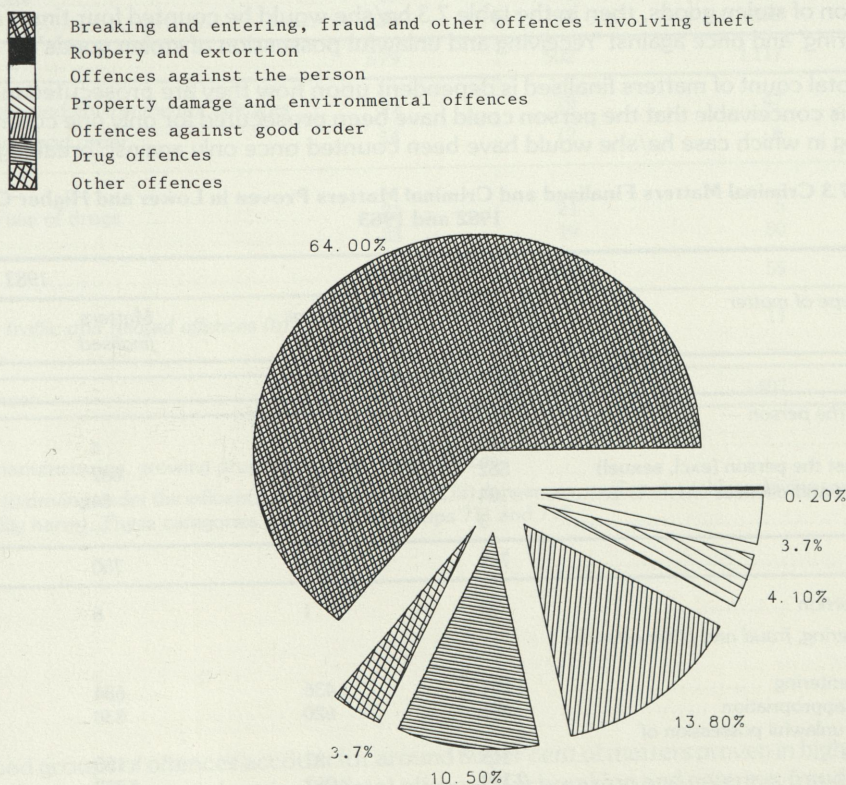
**Table 7.2 Offences Recorded by Police, Tasmania: — Continued**  
Summary (Excluding Motor Vehicle, Traffic and Related Offences)  
(Number)

Class of offence	DANCO Subdivision (a)	Offences recorded			Offences recorded per hundred thousand of mean population		
		1980-81	1981-82	1982-82	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
Offence Against Good Order							
Offences against government security and operations .....	510	—	4	—	—	0.9	—
Offences against justice procedures .....	520	347	364	477	81.6	84.9	110.7
Prostitution and related offences .....	530	—	2	1	—	0.5	0.2
Offensive behaviour offences .....	540	1 615	1 594	1 681	379.7	372.0	390.3
Unlawful possession of weapons .....	550	103	141	149	24.2	32.9	34.6
Other offences against good order .....	560	2 065	2 977	2 333	485.5	694.7	541.7
Drug Offences							
Possession/use of drugs .....	610	902	1 253	963	212.1	292.4	223.6
Dealing and trafficking in drugs .....	620	208	170	171	48.9	39.7	39.7
Manufacturing, growing and other drug offences .....	630	192	223	232	45.1	52.0	53.9
Other offences							
Other offences	810	989	1 247	1 227	232.5	291.0	284.9
TOTAL		27 315	30 147	33 502	6 422.5	7 035.5	7 778.5

(a) Draft Australian National Classification of Offences.

Figure 7.1 shows the relative importance of the various offences recorded by Tasmanian Police in 1982-83. Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences are excluded.

**FIG 7.1 OFFENCES RECORDED BY POLICE**  
(excluding motor vehicle, traffic and related offences)  
1982-83



NOTE: Figures show per centage each category of offence contributed to the total of offence catagories shown



In 1982 the Tasmanian Office of the ABS commenced compiling statistics of matters finalised in courts based on information held by the Tasmanian and Federal police. Statistics are compiled using standards (classifications, counting rules and common data items) developed by the ABS to facilitate development of national court statistics. The Bureau has worked with relevant Commonwealth and State authorities to have these standards incorporated into various court and crime/justice related collections. In relation to court statistics shown in this section the following definitions and explanations apply:

- *Classification of offences*; Offences are classified using the Draft Australian National Classification of Offences — DANCO.
- *Type of matter*; the scope of the collection is criminal matters only. A criminal matter arises when there is an allegation that an offence has been committed. An offence is generally taken to be a breach of a statute, order or common law which may render the person liable to prosecution and punishment if the allegation is proven.
- *Matter finalised*; occurs when the matter is effectively removed, with or without hearing, from the list of matters awaiting hearing in the particular level of the court.

Since it is difficult to identify persons having more than one court appearance it is not possible to produce statistics on a 'distinct person' basis. Use of the most serious matter concept (i.e. that attracting the severest penalty) provides a proxy measure of distinct persons.

Data relating to minor traffic offences are excluded from the Court statistical series. The principal reason for this is related to the volume of such offences and their minor nature.

The following tables present statistics for criminal matters finalised in the lower (magistrates) and higher (Supreme) courts of Tasmania. Broadly the lower courts try less serious matters that are subject to summary jurisdiction. They may also try some indictable offences (e.g. helping a prisoner escape, stealing, killing an animal with intent to steal, forging and uttering where the cheque is not more than \$1 000). The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over all indictable offences. Many matters finalised in the lower courts are done so by transfer to the higher court.

In tables 7.3 and 7.4 the following counting rule applies:

- For each matter a count is recorded for each count of each matter prosecuted. For example, if a person were prosecuted for breaking and entering a dwelling on four counts and on one count of unlawful possession of stolen goods, then in the table 7.3 he/she would be counted four times against 'breaking and entering' and once against 'receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods'.

Hence, the total count of matters finalised is dependent upon how they are prosecuted in the court. In the above example it is conceivable that the person could have been prosecuted for only one count of breaking and entering a dwelling in which case he/she would have been counted once only against 'breaking and entering'.

**Table 7.3 Criminal Matters Finalised and Criminal Matters Proven in Lower and Higher Courts  
1982 and 1983**

Type of matter	1982		1983	
	Matters finalised	Matters proven	Matters finalised	Matters proven
LOWER COURTS				
Offences against the person —				
Homicide .....	12	1	4	—
Assaults against the person (excl. sexual) .....	582	486	682	597
Sexual assaults and offences .....	104	61	64	55
Other .....	3	1	—	—
Total .....	701	549	750	652
Robbery and extortion .....	33	1	6	3
Breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft —				
Breaking and entering .....	1 561	1 436	684	641
Fraud and misappropriation .....	886	620	830	790
Receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods .....	115	87	150	137
Other theft .....	2 399	2 062	3 037	2 808
Total .....	4 961	4 205	4 701	4 376

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**Table 7.3 Criminal Matters Finalised and Criminal Matters Proven in Lower and Higher Courts  
1982 and 1983 — Continued**

Type of matter	1982		1983	
	Matters finalised	Matters proven	Matters finalised	Matters proven
<i>Lower Courts — Continued</i>				
Property damage and environmental offences ....	1 674	1 594	1 015	903
Offences against good order .....	5 723	4 226	5 909	5 464
Drug offences —				
Possession/use of drugs .....	1 141	1 050	1 095	1 039
Other (a) .....	335	299	195	181
Total .....	1 476	1 349	1 290	1 220
Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences (b) ....	4 710	4 561	5 129	4 956
Other offences .....	57	52	71	64
All Offences .....	19 335	16 537	18 871	17 638
<b>HIGHER COURTS</b>				
Offences against the person —				
Homicide .....	10	6	11	8
Assaults against the person (excl. sexual) ....	31	25	77	54
Sexual assaults and offences .....	34	27	63	51
Other .....	—	—	—	—
Total .....	75	58	151	113
Robbery and extortion .....	16	15	20	18
Breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft —				
Breaking and entering .....	244	223	463	434
Fraud and misappropriation .....	188	174	271	237
Receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods .....	12	11	25	14
Other theft .....	135	94	358	317
Total .....	579	502	1 117	1 002
Property damage and environmental offences ....	29	19	47	31
Offences against good order .....	14	12	6	4
Drug offences —				
Possession/use of drugs .....	21	21	5	5
Other (a) .....	23	19	50	38
Total .....	44	40	55	43
Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences (b) ....	9	8	11	10
Other offences .....	—	—	—	—
All offences .....	766	654	1 407	1 221

(a) Comprises manufacturing, growing drugs and other drug offences.

(b) Comprises: (i) driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, (ii) dangerous, negligent, reckless driving (excluding driving causing death or bodily harm). These categories are DANCO groups 711 and 712.

Three broad groups of offences account for around 80 per cent of matters proven in higher and lower courts. These are (i) property damage and environmental offences; (ii) breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft offences; and (iii) motor vehicle, traffic and related offences. Around 85 to 90 per cent of matters finalised and proven in the higher and lower courts are in respect of male offenders. The bulk of matters proven are for male offenders aged 15-24 years.



**Table 7.4 Matters Proven Lower and Higher Courts  
by Age and Sex of Offender 1982 and 1983**

Particulars	Age						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-39	40-59	60 & over	Not stated	
Number of Matters Proven							
1982 — Males	4 208	5 233	4 319	1 315	298	30	15 403
Females	603	415	540	181	44	5	1 788
1983 — Males	(a) 4 069	5 116	4 828	1 601	230	61	15 905
Females	1 272	573	800	247	53	6	2 951
Proportion of All Matters Proven (Per cent)							
1982 — Males	24.5	30.4	25.1	7.6	1.7	0.2	89.6
Females	3.5	2.4	3.1	1.1	0.3	—	10.4
1983 — Males	21.6	27.1	25.6	8.5	1.2	0.3	84.3
Females	6.7	3.0	4.2	1.3	0.3	—	15.6

(a) Includes 13 matters proven which related to offenders under 15 years of age.

It is not currently possible to compile statistics about matters finalised in courts on an individual person basis. The closest approximation is to use the 'most serious' matter concept. The most serious matter is that which attracts the severest penalty. If two or more matters attract equal penalties then that matter liable to the severest penalty is treated as the most serious. Failing either of these the apparently most severe matter is chosen. 'Most serious' matter is still not equivalent to individual person court appearances for finalisation of matters in a year. For a given appearance on a number of matters it will equate with an individual person. However, if a person appears more than once in the year and has matters finalised on more than one appearance, he/she will be counted against a 'most serious' matter each time matters are finalised. The concept of 'most serious' matter has been used in Tables 7.5 to 7.7.

**Table 7.5 Most Serious Criminal Matters Finalised and Criminal Matters Proven in Lower and Higher Courts  
1982 and 1983**

Type of matter	1982		1983	
	Matters finalised	Matters proven	Matters finalised	Matters proven
<b>LOWER COURTS</b>				
<i>Offences against the person —</i>				
Homicide .....	7	1	4	—
Assaults against the person (excl. sexual) .....	387	336	409	352
Sexual assaults and offences .....	64	47	32	25
Other .....	—	—	—	—
Total .....	458	384	445	377
<i>Robbery and extortion .....</i>	8	1	4	1
<i>Breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft —</i>				
Breaking and entering .....	268	230	309	290
Fraud and misappropriation .....	123	103	162	152
Receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods .....	75	61	72	64
Other theft .....	1 213	1 069	1 114	973
Total .....	1 679	1 463	1 657	1 479
<i>Property damage and environmental offences .....</i>	449	416	552	483
<i>Offences against good order .....</i>	2 919	2 536	4 113	3 828
<i>Drug offences —</i>				
Possession/use of drugs .....	392	362	405	383
Other (a) .....	75	70	66	60
Total .....	467	432	471	443
<i>Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences (b) .....</i>	4 091	3 979	4 678	4 545
<i>Other offences .....</i>	32	29	47	40
All offences .....	10 103	9 240	(c) 11 967	(c) 11 196



**Table 7.5 Most Serious Criminal Matters Finalised and Criminal Matters Proven in Lower and Higher Courts — Continued 1982 and 1983**

Type of matter	1982		1983	
	Matters finalised	Matters proven	Matters finalised	Matters proven
<b>HIGHER COURTS</b>				
<i>Offences against the person —</i>				
Homicide .....	6	6	9	7
Assault against the person (excl. sexual) .....	17	14	45	33
Sexual assaults and offences .....	20	15	15	12
Other .....	—	—	—	—
Total .....	43	35	69	52
Robbery and extortion .....	12	11	15	14
<i>Breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft —</i>				
Breaking and entering .....	59	52	122	112
Fraud and misappropriation .....	23	20	38	33
Receiving and unlawful possession of stolen goods .....	7	7	15	10
Other theft .....	24	22	36	31
Total .....	113	101	211	186
Property damage and environmental offences ....	12	9	11	9
Offences against good order .....	8	8	2	1
<i>Drug offences —</i>				
Possession/use of drugs .....	1	1	1	1
Other (a) .....	9	6	15	14
Total .....	10	7	16	15
Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences (b) ....	8	7	8	7
Other offences .....	—	—	—	—
All offences .....	206	178	332	284

(a) Comprises manufacturing, growing drugs and other drug offences.

(b) Comprises: (i) driving under influence of alcohol or drugs, (ii) dangerous negligent, wreckless driving (excluding driving causing death or bodily harm). These categories are DANCO groups 711 and 712 respectively.

(c) Includes 2 defendants other than persons.

**Table 7.6 Most Serious Matters Proven Lower and Higher Courts 1982 and 1983: Proportion and Rates per Thousand of Mean Population**

Type of matter (DANCO Division)	Matters Proven lower and higher courts —			
	Proportion of matters proven		Rate per hundred thousand of population	
	1982	1983	1982	1983
	(Per cent)		(Number)	
Offences against the person .....	4.4	3.7	1.0	1.0
Robbery and extortion .....	0.1	0.1	—	—
Breaking and entering, fraud and other offences involving theft .....	16.6	14.5	3.6	3.8
Property damage and environmental offences ....	4.5	4.3	1.0	1.1
Offences against good order .....	27.0	33.4	5.9	8.8
Drug offences .....	4.7	4.0	1.0	1.1
Motor vehicle, traffic and related offences (a) ....	42.3	39.7	9.3	10.5
Other offences .....	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
TOTAL .....	100.0	100.0	21.9	26.5

(a) See note (b) to table 7.3.

Using the 'most serious' matter counting basis, about 50 per cent of all offenders (male and female) where matters are proven, are young men in the age ranges 15-19 and 20-24 years. In the lower courts, males in these age



groups accounted for almost 60 per cent of male offenders. Women in these age groups also account for the bulk of female offenders.

**Table 7.7 Most Serious Matters Proven Lower and Higher Courts by Age and Sex of Offender 1982 and 1983**

Particulars	Age						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-39	40-59	60 & over	Not stated	
Lower courts: number of matters proven							
1982 — Males	1976	2561	2616	849	159	14	8 175
Females	339	246	297	139	41	3	1 065
1983 — Males	(a) 2 236	3 070	3 127	1 018	172	43	9 666
Females	325	405	585	166	43	4	1 528
Lower courts: proportion of matters proven (Per cent)							
1982 — Males	24.2	31.3	32.0	10.4	1.9	0.2	100.0
Females	31.8	23.1	27.9	13.1	3.8	0.3	100.0
1983 — Males	23.1	31.8	32.4	10.5	1.8	0.4	100.0
Females	21.3	26.5	38.3	10.9	2.8	0.3	100.0
Higher courts: number of matters proven							
1982 — Males	32	60	52	14	—	1	159
Females	7	4	4	4	—	—	19
1983 — Males	60	95	85	18	3	—	261
Females	7	4	4	7	1	—	23
Higher courts: proportion of matters proven (Per cent)							
1982 — Males	20.1	37.7	32.7	8.8	—	0.6	100.0
Females	36.8	21.1	21.1	21.1	—	—	100.0
1983 — Males	23.0	36.4	32.6	6.9	1.1	—	100.0
Females	30.4	17.4	17.4	30.4	4.3	—	100.0

(a) Includes five matters proven which related to offenders under 15 years of age.

### Offenders Imprisoned

In recent years, in the order of 550 to 600 persons are sentenced to terms of imprisonment each year in Tasmania. Around 95 per cent of those imprisoned are males — most being under the age of 30 years.

Most of those imprisoned are young, single male offenders. Almost three-quarters of offenders imprisoned are under the age of 30 years and around 30 per cent are aged 20 years or under. (Males aged 18 to 20 years comprise only six per cent of the total Tasmanian male population and about three per cent of total population).

**Table 7.8 Number of Prisoners (a) Received, Year Ended 30 June**

Year and Sex of Prisoner	Age of prisoner at time sentence commenced								Total
	Under 19	19, 20	21-24	25-29	30-34	35-49	50 and over	Not known	
1979 — Males	123	100	151	79	49	64	18	—	584
Females	2	4	—	1	3	2	—	—	12
1980 — Males	95	82	112	81	38	65	23	—	496
Females	—	1	1	4	1	3	2	—	12
1981 — Males	86	74	102	79	38	64	22	7	472
Females	1	9	3	1	1	2	—	1	18
1982 — Males	61	86	120	103	54	49	17	1	491
Females	2	1	6	2	4	4	1	—	20
1983 — Males	74	79	110	104	55	74	20	2	518
Females	6	3	2	—	4	7	1	—	23
1984 — Males	98	88	144	99	65	65	17	2	578
Females	7	2	9	3	2	5	1	1	30

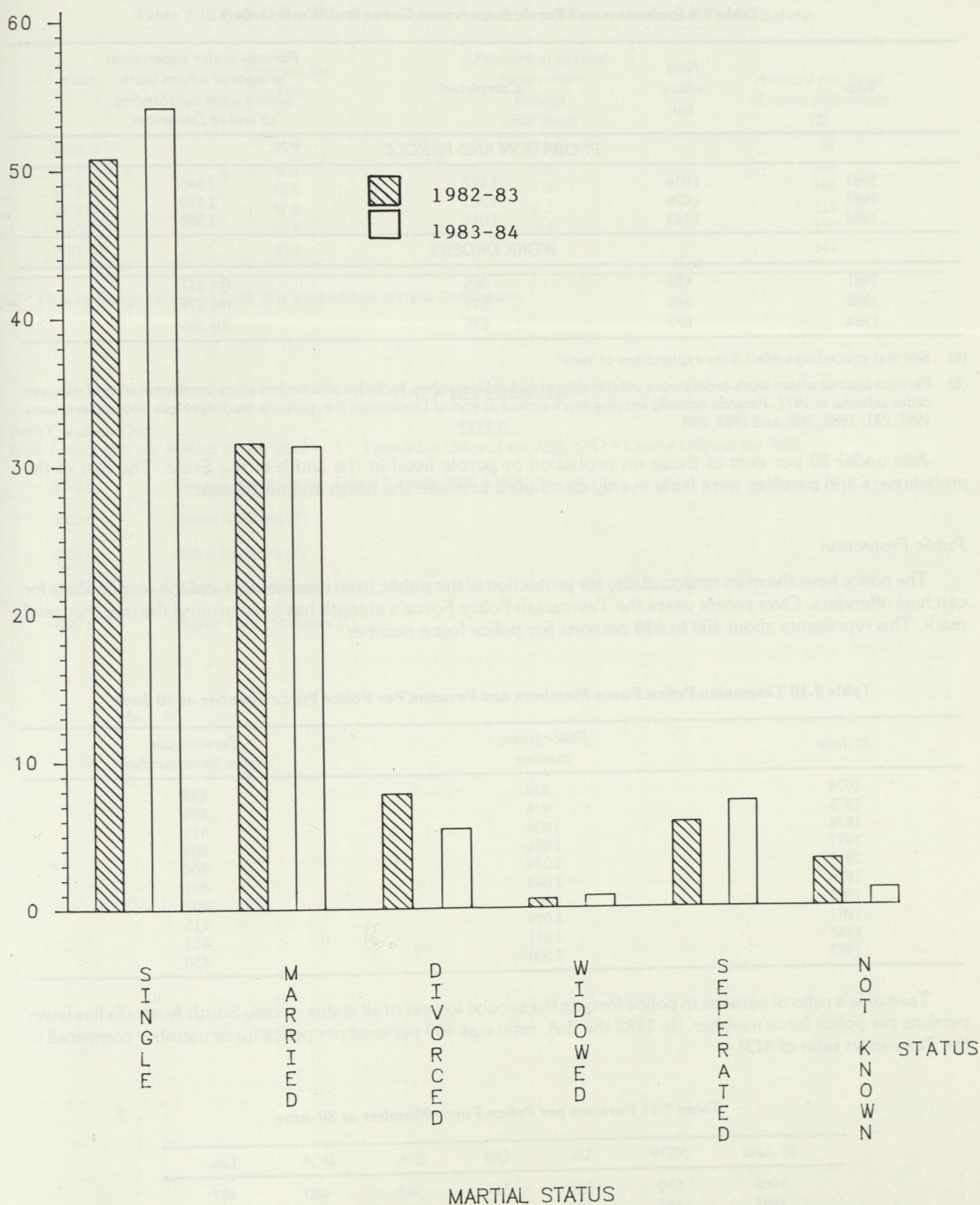
(a) Convicted prisoners received twice or more in a year are counted once only in that year.

In the order of 50 to 55 per cent of persons imprisoned in a particular year have served prison sentences in previous years. In 1983-84, 51 per cent of prisoners had not served sentences in previous years, 17 per cent had been imprisoned once in previous years, eight per cent twice and 24 per cent had had three or more spells in prison in previous years. The majority of persons imprisoned are single. Prisoners by marital status are shown in Fig 7.2.



FIG 7.2 PRISONERS RECEIVED 1982-83 AND  
1983-84 BY MARTIAL STATUS  
(per cent)

PER\_CENT



NOTE: Married includes defacto relationships



As well as convicted persons imprisoned at any time there are a number of people under supervision of the Probation and Parole Service. They are serving probation, parole and work orders in relation to offences. Approximately 1 000 to 1 200 new probation and parole cases are handled each year by the Probation and Parole Service. (In a year, if a person is serving a probation order and receives a new order before completion of the existing one, then it is not counted by the Service as a new order. However, if the person had finished the order, then received a second order, the person would be counted as two new cases in the year. The same counting rule applies to new work order cases). About 80 per cent of persons on probation and parole are males.

**Table 7.9 Probation and Parole Supervised Cases and Work Orders**

Year	New cases (a)	Completed	Persons under supervision or against whom work orders were outstanding at end of December
<b>PROBATION AND PAROLE</b>			
1981	1 018	1 177	1 645
1982	1 076	1 223	1 480
1983	1 143	1 041	1 582
<b>WORK ORDERS</b>			
1981	433	366	(b) 347
1982	589	519	(b) 377
1983	672	636	(b) 366

(a) See text preceding table 7.9 for explanation of 'new'.

(b) Persons against whom work orders were outstanding at end of December. Includes absconders since implementation of the work order scheme in 1972. Persons actually serving work orders at end of December (i.e. persons on orders less absconders) were 1981, 231; 1982, 262; and 1983, 240.

Just under 50 per cent of those on probation or parole lived in the south of the State. The rest of the probationers and parolees were fairly evenly distributed between the north and north-west.

#### Public Protection

The police have the main responsibility for protection of the public from criminal acts and the responsibility for catching offenders. Over recent years the Tasmanian Police Force's strength has been around the one thousand mark. This represents about 400 to 430 persons per police force number.

**Table 7.10 Tasmanian Police Force Members and Persons Per Police Force Member at 30 June**

30 June	Police force, number	Persons per police force number
1974	939	433
1975	976	420
1976	1 004	411
1977	1 026	403
1978	1 030	404
1979	1 043	401
1980	1 041	407
1981	1 029	415
1982	1 041	413
1983	1 006	430

Tasmania's ratio of persons to police force is the second lowest of all states — only South Australia has fewer persons per police force member. (In 1982 the S.A. ratio was 409 persons per police force member compared to the Tasmanian ratio of 413).

**Table 7.11 Persons per Police Force Member at 30 June**

30 June	NSW	Vic	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.
1980	550	515	517	382	480	407
1981	553	482	515	406	489	415
1982	557	480	532	409	496	413



*Expenditure on Law, Order and Public Safety*

The ABS compiles statistics of government (federal, state and local) receipts and outlays. These statistics are compiled using transaction type and purpose classifications which enable comparisons between states and, over time, of expenditure by purpose and type to be made. Based on these statistics, expenditure by government authorities in Tasmania in 1981-82 on law, order and public safety, was \$60.5m. This compares to an expenditure in 1976-77 of \$35.9m. The 1981-82 expenditure was 7.6 per cent of total outlays by Tasmanian State authorities.

**Table 7.12 Expenditure by Government Authorities on Law, Order and Public Safety**

Year	Amount (a) (\$m)	Proportion of total government outlays (Per cent)	Amount per head of mean population (\$)
1976-77	35.9	7.3	87
1977-78	42.1	7.5	101
1978-79	43.5	7.3	104
1979-80	47.8	8.1	113
1980-81	53.2	7.4	125
1981-82	60.5	7.6	141

(a) Final consumption expenditure plus expenditure on new fixed assets.

**DATA REFERENCES****ABS Catalogue No.****TITLE**

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

4105.0	General Social Survey, Crime Victims, 1975 (C/O)
4503.6	Prison Statistics (T)
4504.6	Police Statistics (T)
4506.6	Lower Court Statistics (T)
4507.6	Higher Court Statistics (T)



Table 7.12 Expenditure on law enforcement, 1980-1989

Year	Police	Prisons	Other	Total
1980	10.5	1.5	0.5	12.5
1981	11.0	1.6	0.6	13.2
1982	11.5	1.7	0.7	13.9
1983	12.0	1.8	0.8	14.6
1984	12.5	1.9	0.9	15.3
1985	13.0	2.0	1.0	16.0
1986	13.5	2.1	1.1	16.7
1987	14.0	2.2	1.2	17.4
1988	14.5	2.3	1.3	18.1
1989	15.0	2.4	1.4	18.8

Source: Home Office, *Home Office Statistics*, 1990, p. 10.

Notes: The figures are in millions of pounds sterling.

The figures are for the financial year ending 31 March.

The figures are for the United Kingdom as a whole.

The figures are for the police, prisons and other law enforcement agencies.

The figures are for the police, prisons and other law enforcement agencies.

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## Chapter 8

### HOUSING

#### Introduction

Housing statistics in this Chapter are from three main sources:

- Census;
- ABS building activity statistics; and
- Government reports.

In general, the statistics measure the quantity and type of housing used by the State's population. Indicators of adequacy can be derived by looking at aspects such as occupancy ratios, number of rooms, facilities, etc. However, as there are no actual standards to assess these qualitative indicators against, it is difficult to make any precise statement about the overall adequacy of housing. Also, there are no general measures available relating to community satisfaction with available housing and housing conditions

#### Housing and the Population

In this section much of the information is based on Census results. It needs to be remembered that for Census purposes, an occupied private dwelling is defined as a premise occupied by a household on Census night. This means that the number of occupied dwellings equals the number of households e.g. if one structure is occupied by two households on Census night and two household schedules are completed, then for Census purposes, that structure would be counted as TWO occupied private dwellings. In other words for any given area, the number of occupied dwellings as defined for the Census, may exceed the actual number of occupied separate premises.

Over the period 1971 to 1981, Tasmania's population increased by 7.3 per cent, and private dwellings, as measured by the Census, increased by 25 per cent. Unless there was a dramatic change in the number of households per actual premise (structure) this indicates a significant reduction in the number of persons per private dwelling. Using estimated resident population, persons per private dwelling decreased from 3.2 to 2.8 persons over the period. A contributing factor to this trend was the move out from parental homes of people born during the late 1940s and 1950s. (This period is often referred to as the 'baby boom' era.) These cohorts, as they moved out, formed separate households and generally occupied a separate structure while their parents mostly continued to live in the original family home. This created considerable demand for additional housing well in excess of actual population growth. Other factors contributing to the increased demand for housing included a trend towards smaller family size, greater independence of youth and a tendency for them to move into separate homes at early ages and an increase in the number of single parent families.

Table 8.1 'Private Dwellings' and Estimated Resident Population at Census 1971-81

30 June	Number of 'private' dwellings at Census			Estimated resident population ('000)	Persons per —	
	Occupied	Unoccupied	Total		Occupied private dwelling	All private dwellings
1971	109 597	13 307	122 904	398.1	3.6	3.2
1976	121 832	15 786	137 618	412.3	3.4	3.0
1981	135 598	17 765	153 363	427.2	3.2	2.8

Table 8.2 shows the number of dwellings completed each year and also shows the increase in the State's population over the year.



Table 8.2 Dwelling Completions and Population Increase for Year Ended 30 June

Year ended	New dwellings completed during year ended 30 June			Population increase for year ended 30 June ( <sup>000</sup> )
	Houses (No.)	Other dwellings (No.)	Total (No.)	
1972	2 260	770	3 030	2.2
1973	2 380	780	3 170	2.8
1974 (a)	2 820	700	3 520	3.1
1975	2 650	810	3 460	3.9
1976	2 800	880	3 680	2.2
1977	3 140	900	4 040	2.7
1978	2 830	1 050	3 890	2.6
1979	2 620	880	3 490	3.2
1980	2 720	880	3 600	2.8
1981	2 510	990	3 500	3.6
1982	2 010	730	2 740	2.6

(a) Alterations and additions valued at \$10 000 and over were counted as new dwellings up to 1972-73 but are excluded for 1973-74 and onwards.

The most common form of private dwelling is a 'separate house'. At the 1981 Census, 91 per cent of the Census counted population in private dwellings were in 'separate houses' which comprised 86 per cent of occupied private dwellings.

Table 8.3 Structure of Occupied Private Dwellings and Persons Counted in Each Structure:  
Census 30 June 1981

Structure of dwelling	Dwellings		Persons in each dwelling structure	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Separate house	116 304	85.8	365 440	90.6
Semi-detached house	2 343	1.7	5 200	1.3
Row or terrace house	927	0.7	1 730	0.4
Other medium density	11 833	8.7	20 640	5.1
Flats over 3 storeys	540	0.4	860	0.2
Caravan, houseboat etc.	570	0.4	1 140	0.3
Improvised home	203	0.1	420	0.1
Dwelling/non-dwelling combined	1 412	1.0	4 020	1.0
Not stated	1 465	1.1	3 960	0.9
TOTAL	135 599	100.0	403 410	100.0

The principal differences in terms of dwelling structure, between Tasmania and Australia for occupied private dwellings were: (i) separate house — in Tasmania this accounted for 85.8 per cent of occupied private dwellings and only 78.5 per cent at the Australian level; (ii) other medium density — 8.7 per cent in Tasmania and 12.9 per cent for Australia; and (iii) semi-detached houses — 1.7 per cent in Tasmania and 3.0 per cent for Australia.

Almost 86 per cent of all family types lived in a 'separate house' at the 1981 Census. The highest proportions of family types in separate houses were: head, spouse, other adults and dependants (96.4 per cent in separate houses); head, spouse other adults (96.0 per cent); and head, spouse and dependants (95.0 per cent). Only 65.5 per cent of head only family types were in separate houses at the 1981 Census. Approximately nine per cent of families were housed in 'other medium density housing' at the 1981 Census. 'Other medium density housing' includes dwellings such as: blocks of flats and units up to and including two storeys high, separate dwellings or units sharing a single block of land; and houses divided into flats. Family types with the highest proportions in 'other medium density housing' were: head only (23.6 per cent in this type of dwelling); head and dependants (12.3 per cent); head and other adults (8.7 per cent); and head and spouse (7.0 per cent). Just over five per cent of families were housed in dwellings other than those classified as 'separate house' or 'other medium density housing.'



Fig 8.1 shows the proportion of each family type in a 'separate house' at the 1981 Census.

FIG 8.1 PROPORTION OF FAMILY TYPES IN SEPARATE HOUSE,  
CENSUS 30 JUNE 1981  
(PER CENT)

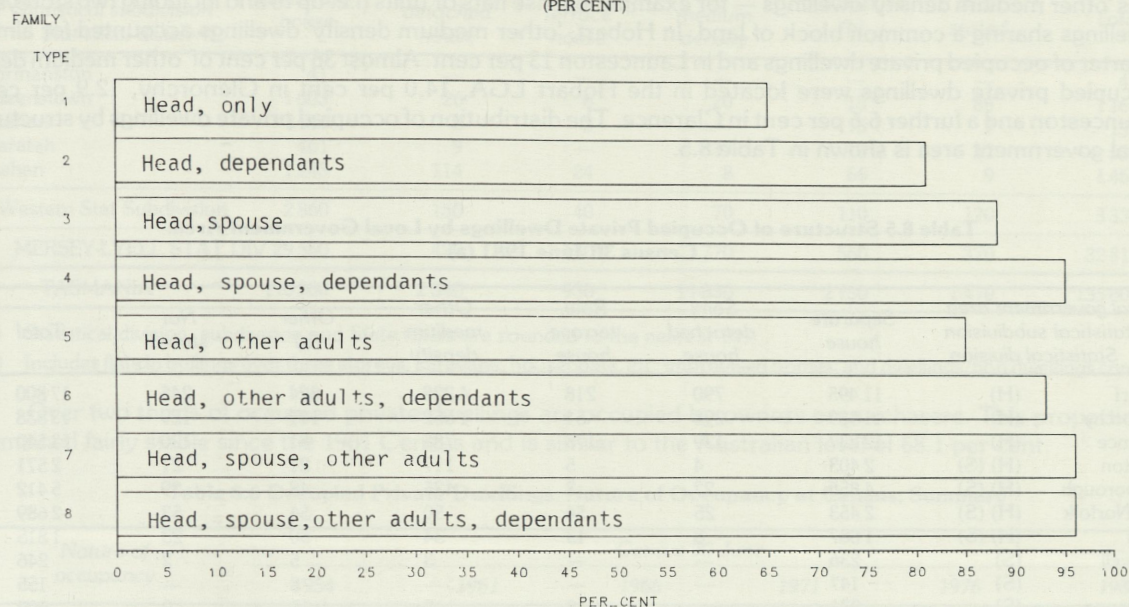


Table 8.4 Family Types by Structure of Private Dwelling Occupied:  
Census 30 June 1981

Family type	Number of families dwelling in —				
	Separate house	Semi-detached house	Row or terrace house	Other medium density	Flats over three storeys
Head only	20 010	1 050	560	7 220	330
Head with dependants	6 420	210	80	970	40
Head and spouse	26 940	500	150	2 130	100
Head, spouse & dependants	38 140	320	70	750	10
Head & other adults	5 190	160	50	530	50
Head, other adults & dependants	1 930	20	60	80	—
Head, spouse & other adults	10 560	90	10	150	10
Head, spouse, other adults & dependants	9 900	50	10	80	—
<b>TOTAL Families</b>	<b>119 080</b>	<b>2 390</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>11 930</b>	<b>540</b>

Table 8 — continued

Family type	Number of families dwelling in —				Total families
	Caravan, houseboat etc.	Improvised home	Dwelling, non-dwelling combined	Not stated	
Head only	280	110	460	510	30 530
Head with dependants	40	10	80	80	7 910
Head and spouse	130	40	260	310	30 550
Head, spouse & dependants	100	40	390	360	40 160
Head & other adults	10	—	50	60	6 090
Head, other adults & dependants	—	—	—	20	2 080
Head, spouse & other adults	10	—	80	80	11 000
Head, spouse, other adults & dependants	10	10	110	90	10 270
<b>TOTAL Families</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>1 450</b>	<b>1 490</b>	<b>138 590</b>



'Separate house', as a proportion of total occupied private dwellings, was lowest in Hobart and Launceston local government areas. This type of occupied dwelling accounted for 64.5 per cent of all occupied private dwellings in Hobart and 78.7 per cent in Launceston. In both LGAs the principal other form of occupied dwelling was 'other medium density' dwellings — for example low rise flats or units (i.e. up to and including two storeys) and dwellings sharing a common block of land. In Hobart, 'other medium density' dwellings accounted for almost a quarter of occupied private dwellings and in Launceston 13 per cent. Almost 36 per cent of 'other medium density' occupied private dwellings were located in the Hobart LGA, 14.0 per cent in Glenorchy, 12.9 per cent in Launceston and a further 6.6 per cent in Clarence. The distribution of occupied private dwellings by structure by local government area is shown in Table 8.5.

**Table 8.5 Structure of Occupied Private Dwellings by Local Government Area:  
Census 30 June 1981 (a)**

Local government area	Statistical subdivision	Statistical division	Separate house	Semi-detached house	Row, terrace house	Other medium density	Other (b)	Not stated	Total
Hobart	(H)		11 495	790	218	4 228	824	245	17 800
Glenorchy	(H)		11 589	298	51	1 652	119	129	13 838
Clarence	(H)		12 237	139	178	785	81	120	13 540
Brighton	(H) (S)		2 403	4	5	117	21	21	2 571
Kingborough	(H) (S)		4 856	27	7	435	48	39	5 412
New Norfolk	(H) (S)		2 453	25	54	50	54	53	2 689
Sorell	(H) (S)		1 687	8	13	34	50	23	1 815
Bothwell	(S)		236	—	—	3	5	2	246
Bruny	(S)		147	—	—	—	8	—	155
Esperance	(S)		971	—	2	2	15	9	999
Glamorgan	(S)		514	2	—	4	25	19	564
Green Ponds	(S)		297	3	—	—	8	3	311
Hamilton	(S)		715	—	—	—	19	15	749
Huon	(S)		1 388	2	—	23	47	—	1 460
Oatlands	(S)		629	4	—	5	19	15	672
Port Cygnet	(S)		686	4	3	—	31	5	729
Richmond	(S)		560	5	2	10	17	3	597
Spring Bay	(S)		557	5	2	5	32	4	605
Tasman	(S)		348	—	—	—	20	30	398
HOBART STAT DIV			44 780	1 290	530	7 300	1 150	600	55 640
SOUTHERN STAT DIV			8 990	30	10	50	290	140	9 520
Launceston			8 960	351	187	1 525	231	118	11 372
Beaconsfield			4 101	24	2	144	73	43	4 387
Deloraine			1 478	23	—	39	42	13	1 595
Evandale			560	—	—	5	19	—	584
George Town			1 810	35	5	138	30	18	2 036
Lilydale			2 476	31	6	92	35	21	2 661
Longford			1 697	14	—	51	36	30	1 828
St Leonards			5 541	82	29	485	40	47	6 224
Westbury			1 878	5	3	126	53	6	2 071
Tamar Stat Subdivision			28 500	570	240	2 610	560	300	32 760
Campbell Town			456	4	10	4	14	3	491
Fingal			873	11	5	14	37	28	968
Flinders			319	—	—	3	18	—	340
Portland			651	8	10	29	43	12	753
Ringarooma			707	2	—	—	27	9	745
Ross			156	—	—	2	9	2	169
Scottsdale			1 310	10	—	55	25	14	1 414
North Eastern Stat Subdivision			4 470	30	30	110	170	70	4 880
NORTHERN STAT DIV			32 970	600	260	2 710	730	370	37 640
Burnie			5 695	48	35	442	80	61	6 361
Circular Head			2 203	5	5	54	70	19	2 356
Devonport			6 756	75	26	587	64	60	7 568
Kentish			1 209	28	—	3	26	3	1 269
King Island			709	8	—	17	31	7	772
Latrobe			1 644	5	10	40	39	9	1 747
Penguin			1 480	8	—	65	32	15	1 600
Ulverstone			3 684	57	5	304	46	41	4 137
Wynyard			3 323	39	18	190	58	35	3 663
North Western Stat Subdivision			26 700	270	100	1 700	450	250	29 480

continued on next page



**Table 8.5 Structure of Occupied Private Dwellings by Local Government Area:  
Census 30 June 1981 (a) — Continued**

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Separate house	Semi- detached house	Row, terrace house	Other medium density	Other (b)	Not stated	Total
Gormanston	41	—	—	—	—	—	41
Queenstown	1 003	26	6	20	15	88	1 161
Strahan	111	2	2	—	15	7	137
Waratah	461	9	—	37	10	11	528
Zeehan	1 243	114	24	8	66	9	1 464
Western Stat Subdivision	2 860	150	40	70	110	120	3 330
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	29 560	420	130	1 770	560	370	32 810
TASMANIA	116 300	2 340	930	11 830	2 730	1 470	135 600

(a) Statistical division, subdivision and State totals are rounded to the nearest 10.

(b) Includes flats in buildings over three storeys; caravans, houseboats, etc; improvised homes; and dwellings/non dwellings combined.

Over two thirds of occupied private dwellings are occupied by owners or purchasers. This proportion has remained fairly stable since the 1961 Census and is similar to the Australian level of 68.1 per cent.

**Table 8.6 Occupied Private Dwellings: Nature of Occupancy at Census; Summary**

Nature of occupancy	Census 30 June					
	1954	1961	1966	1971	1976	1981
Number						
Owner or purchaser	48 250	61 900	68 360	73 270	83 280	92 910
Tenant —						
Government housing authority	2 930	3 270	5 180	6 950	6 300	9 550
Other landlord (a)	24 060	22 670	21 920	23 640	23 340	24 350
Total Tenant	26 990	25 940	27 090	30 580	29 640	33 910
Other	1 970	2 000	2 060	{ 5 750 }	6 810	5 510
Not stated	440	360	770		2 100	3 280
TOTAL	77 650	90 200	98 280	109 600	121 830	135 600
Proportion (per cent)						
Owner or purchaser	62.1	68.6	69.6	66.9	68.4	68.5
Tenant —						
Government housing authority	3.8	3.6	5.3	6.3	5.2	7.0
Other landlord (a)	31.0	25.1	22.3	21.6	19.2	18.0
Total Tenant	34.8	28.8	27.6	27.9	24.3	25.0
Other	2.5	2.2	2.1	{ 5.2 }	5.6	4.1
Not stated	0.6	0.4	0.8		1.7	2.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes tenants of other government agencies. At the 1981 Census, 2 140 occupied private dwellings were occupied by tenants of other government agencies.

It is possible that tenants of the government housing authority (the Housing Division of the Department of Housing and Construction) may occasionally mis-report to whom they pay rent and thus are classified as tenants of other government agencies. This may result in some understatement of tenants of the Housing Division.

Local government areas where the owner or purchaser form of occupancy reach the highest levels include: Beaconsfield (81.6 per cent of occupied private dwellings are occupied by owners or purchasers); Kingborough (80.1 per cent); Penguin (78.4 per cent); and Westbury (76.1 per cent). The west coast local government areas of Waratah and Zeehan had very low owner-purchaser occupancy proportions. The principal reason for the low proportions (8.3 and 10.7 per cent respectively) was that many of the occupants were housed in either company or other employer provided accommodation. The LGA with the next lowest proportion of owner-purchaser occupancy was Brighton (40.5 per cent). Tenants of the government housing authority made up 50.3 per cent of occupied private dwellings in Brighton. Other LGAs with significant proportions of government housing authority tenants included: George Town (29.1 per cent of occupied private dwellings); St Leonards (16.2 per cent); Clarence (13.3 per cent); Lilydale (12.2 per cent); Burnie (9.6 per cent); and Glenorchy (9.3 per cent).

Table 8.7 shows by LGA the proportion of each occupancy type at the 1981 Census.



Table 8.7 Occupied Private Dwellings: Proportion of Occupancy Type by Local Government Area: Census 30 June 1981 (Per Cent)

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Occupancy type					Total
		Owner or purchaser	Tennant		Other	Not stated	
			Govt housing authority	Other landlord			
Hobart	(H)	60.7	2.4	30.2	3.4	3.2	100.0
Glenorchy	(H)	72.8	9.3	13.9	2.2	1.7	100.0
Clarence	(H)	75.1	13.3	7.9	2.1	1.6	100.0
Brighton	(H) (S)	40.5	50.3	5.8	2.0	1.4	100.0
Kingborough	(H) (S)	80.1	1.9	13.1	3.0	1.9	100.0
New Norfolk	(H) (S)	61.3	7.8	23.3	4.6	2.9	100.0
Sorell	(H) (S)	75.9	0.2	14.2	6.2	3.5	100.0
Bothwell	(S)	48.4	1.6	24.2	23.0	2.8	100.0
Bruny	(S)	74.2	—	11.0	12.3	2.6	100.0
Esperance	(S)	71.7	2.8	14.9	6.1	4.4	100.0
Glamorgan	(S)	66.7	—	18.2	10.6	4.4	100.0
Green Ponds	(S)	74.0	1.6	11.3	12.2	1.0	100.0
Hamilton	(S)	41.7	—	44.9	10.3	3.2	100.0
Huon	(S)	73.0	1.0	17.4	7.6	1.0	100.0
Oatlands	(S)	64.7	1.6	17.1	11.9	4.6	100.0
Port Cygnet	(S)	73.4	2.2	13.7	6.2	4.5	100.0
Richmond	(S)	73.4	1.2	12.1	9.4	4.0	100.0
Spring Bay	(S)	68.0	4.5	19.4	4.8	3.3	100.0
Tasman	(S)	64.8	0.5	15.3	11.0	8.8	100.0
HOBART STAT DIV		68.4	9.2	17.5	2.7	2.2	100.0
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		67.3	1.3	19.0	8.8	3.6	100.0
Launceston		68.1	1.8	23.9	3.6	2.6	100.0
Beaconsfield		81.6	0.6	10.6	4.5	2.7	100.0
Deloraine		71.4	0.8	16.8	7.0	4.1	100.0
Evandale		71.3	0.5	17.6	10.1	0.5	100.0
George Town		51.5	29.1	14.1	3.5	1.8	100.0
Lilydale		72.9	12.2	9.3	3.9	1.6	100.0
Longford		72.1	1.2	19.5	5.7	1.5	100.0
St Leonards		70.2	16.2	10.4	2.2	1.1	100.0
Westbury		76.1	0.1	15.5	6.0	2.2	100.0
Tamar Stat Subdivision		70.6	6.7	16.5	4.0	2.1	100.0
Campbell Town		58.3	7.3	22.6	10.2	1.8	100.0
Fingal		54.0	2.7	25.0	13.5	4.8	100.0
Flinders		56.3	3.5	26.7	12.0	1.5	100.0
Portland		69.3	0.9	15.5	7.4	6.8	100.0
Ringarooma		70.2	1.6	12.4	10.3	5.5	100.0
Ross		53.3	—	26.9	16.2	3.0	100.0
Scottsdale		69.7	5.0	17.4	5.8	2.1	100.0
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		63.9	3.3	19.3	9.4	3.9	100.0
NORTHERN STAT DIV		69.7	6.3	16.9	4.7	2.3	100.0
Burnie		70.2	9.6	15.4	2.7	2.1	100.0
Circular Head		69.5	3.1	15.7	9.2	2.5	100.0
Devonport		73.2	7.2	14.5	2.9	2.2	100.0
Kentish		71.9	3.5	15.4	5.8	3.4	100.0
King Island		48.7	0.5	39.6	7.6	3.5	100.0
Latrobe		73.8	5.0	11.7	6.5	3.0	100.0
Penguin		78.4	4.5	11.6	4.6	0.9	100.0
Ulverstone		73.3	6.4	13.3	4.4	2.6	100.0
Wynyard		74.7	5.5	14.1	4.1	1.5	100.0
North Western Stat Subdivision		72.1	6.5	15.0	4.3	2.2	100.0
Gormanston		58.5	0.5	24.3	12.2	—	100.0
Queenstown		52.0	2.7	32.0	4.4	8.9	100.0
Strahan		76.5	—	11.0	7.4	5.1	100.0
Waratah		8.3	0.4	87.3	2.8	1.3	100.0
Zeehan		10.7	1.1	81.3	3.6	3.3	100.0
Western Stat Subdivision		27.9	1.5	61.6	3.9	5.1	100.0
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV		67.6	5.9	19.7	4.2	2.5	100.0
TASMANIA		68.5	7.0	18.0	4.1	2.4	100.0



Table 8.8 shows the proportion of families in private dwellings by stated occupancy for each statistical division.

**Table 8.8 Families in Private Dwellings by Nature of Occupancy by Statistical Division  
as a Proportion of State Totals: Census 30 June 1981  
(Per Cent)**

Statistical division	Nature of occupancy				Total families
	Owner or purchaser	Tenant, government housing authority	Tenant, other landlord	Other (a)	
Hobart	41.0	53.5	39.8	27.2	41.0
Southern	6.9	1.2	7.5	15.3	7.1
Northern	28.2	24.9	26.1	32.3	27.7
Mersey-Lyell	23.9	20.4	26.6	25.2	24.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes families with occupancy category 'not stated'.

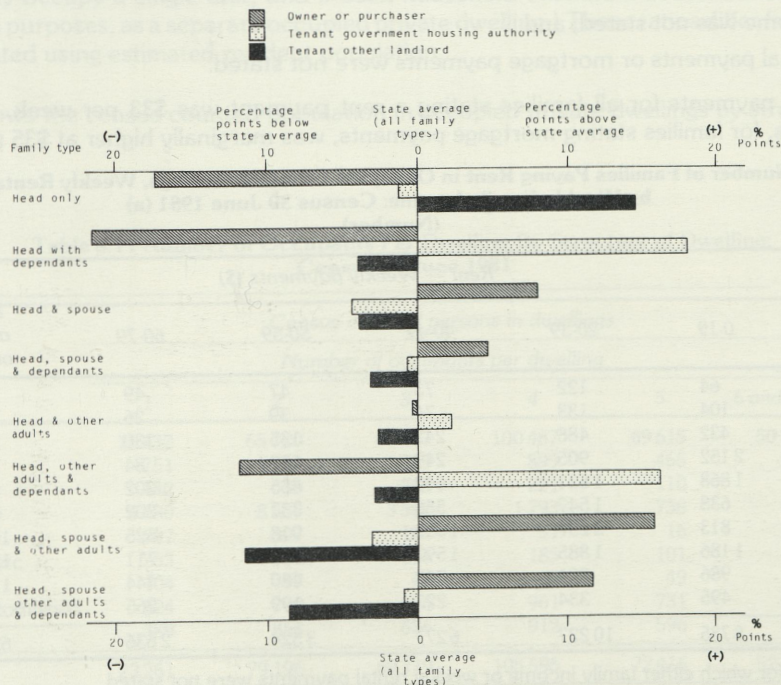
Family types least likely to either own or to be in the process of purchasing a home are: (i) head with dependants; (ii) head only; (iii) head, other adults and dependants. Head and dependant families have the highest incidence of all family types as tenants of government housing authority dwellings. Such families also have a high incidence as tenants of other landlords (principally private but also some other government agencies). Head, other adults and dependant families are also often tenants of the government housing authority but are below the state average as tenants of other landlords. This pattern of occupancy for head and dependant; and head, other adults and dependant type families can be related to the fact that generally these families have low family income and the head (usually female) is often not in the labour force.

Head only type families have the highest incidence of all family types as tenants of other landlords (mainly private). Many such family types comprise young single persons who have moved from home to a flat prior to establishing some form of two or more member family-type relationship.

The family types most likely to either own or to be in the process of purchasing a home all involve a head-spouse situation. The highest incidence of owner-purchaser occupancy occurs for family type head, spouse and other adults. Such families are usually the longer established. Head and spouse; head, spouse and dependants; and head, spouse, other adults and dependants all have above stated average owner-purchaser occupancy incidence.

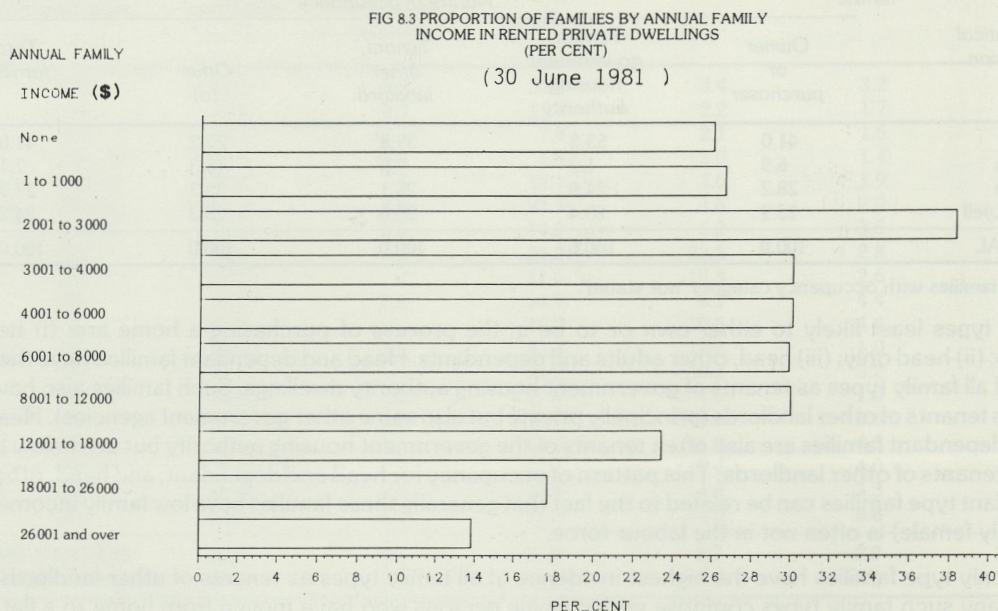
In Fig 8.2 the difference, in percentage points, between the State average for all family types for selected occupancy categories and each family type is shown.

**Fig8.2 SELECTED NATURE OF OCCUPANCY BY FAMILY TYPE  
PERCENTAGE POINTS VARIATION FROM STATE AVERAGE**





One quarter of Tasmanian families occupying private dwellings at the 1981 Census were in rented accommodation. Families in the lower income ranges had the highest incidence of living in rented accommodation. Thirty eight per cent of families with annual family income \$2 001 to \$3 000 lived in rented dwellings. For all families with annual family income in the range \$2 001 to \$12 000, 30 per cent occupied rented accommodation. In the case of families with an annual family income in excess of \$18 000, only 16 per cent lived in rented dwellings at the time of the 1981 Census.



There are two principal types of landlord classified from the Census — government housing authority (i.e. the Housing Department) and private landlords. Around 55 per cent (approximately 5 600) of families which were tenants of the government housing authority reported family incomes of \$8 000 or less at the 1981 Census. In the case of private landlord tenants 35 per cent (or 7 900 families) fell into this income category. At the top end of the family income scales, six per cent of government housing authority tenant families reported family incomes of over \$18 000 whereas almost 20 per cent of private landlord tenants were in this family income category. For tenants reporting family income, the median family income for government housing authority tenants was \$6 800 and for private landlord tenants \$10 500.

The next two tables show the number of families by weekly family income and weekly rental and mortgage payments. Excluded from both tables are families for which:

- (i) family income was not stated; and
- (ii) either rental payments or mortgage payments were not stated.

Median rental payments for all families stating a rent payment was \$33 per week. The median weekly mortgage payments, for families stating mortgage payments, was marginally higher at \$35 per week.

**Table 8.9 Number of Families Paying Rent in Occupied Private Dwellings, Weekly Rental Payments by Weekly Family Income: Census 30 June 1981 (a)**  
(Number)

Family income (weekly) (\$)	Rent — Weekly payments (\$)						Total
	0-19	20-39	40-49	50-59	60-79	80 and over	
None	64	122	73	47	49	16	369
1-38	104	133	74	39	26	15	389
39-58	432	488	242	135	130	50	1 475
59-77	2 152	905	249	139	84	22	3 552
78-115	1 868	1 631	640	355	202	41	4 736
116-154	638	1 547	586	337	202	31	3 341
155-231	813	2 257	1 858	913	525	104	6 465
232-346	1 186	1 885	1 592	884	711	130	6 391
347-500	986	924	742	480	444	116	3 689
501 and over	495	334	223	199	265	98	1 615
TOTAL	8 735	10 227	6 277	3 524	2 636	625	32 022

(a) Excludes families for which either family income or weekly rental payments were not stated.



Census statistics contained in Tables 8.9 and 8.10 show that the direct cost of accommodation falls more heavily on low income families than on families in the higher income ranges. Families with an annual family income of \$12 000 or less and living in rented accommodation, typically paid out around 25 per cent of their income on rent. For families purchasing their home the pattern was somewhat different. Those in family income ranges up to \$8 000 per annum were paying out about 20 per cent of their income as repayments. This proportion declined to around 16 per cent for families with incomes in the range \$8 001 to \$12 000. Families with income from \$12 001 to \$18 000 paid around 10 to 14 per cent of their income out in either rental or mortgage payments. For families with annual family incomes in excess of \$18 000 rental and mortgage payments dropped below 10 per cent of family income.

**Table 8.10 Number of Families in Occupied Private Dwellings Paying Mortgage, Weekly Mortgage Repayments by Family Income: Census 30 June 1981 (a)**  
(Number)

Family income (\$)	Weekly mortgage payments (\$)						Total
	Less than \$10	10-29	30-49	50-69	70-89	90 and over	
None	41	106	61	49	21	24	302
1-38	35	95	77	56	16	15	289
39-58	60	138	65	38	4	11	315
59-77	277	378	96	63	19	15	844
78-115	434	944	324	151	36	65	1954
116-154	386	722	425	212	57	74	1876
155-231	752	2 470	1 842	991	197	204	6 455
232-346	1 119	4 439	3 304	2 316	510	322	12 007
347-500	915	3 360	2 739	2 660	859	614	11 147
501 and over	393	1 359	1 350	1 542	740	899	6 288
TOTAL	4 407	14 015	10 278	8 078	2 461	2 239	41 477

(a) Excludes families for which either family income or mortgage payments were not stated.

Over the post-war period occupancy ratios (persons per dwelling) have fallen substantially. Based on census counts of the population in occupied private dwellings the ratio has fallen from 3.72 persons per occupied private dwelling at the 1954 Census to 3.69 at the 1961 Census. The downward trend continued through the 1960s and into the 1980s — at the 1971 Census there were 3.41 persons in occupied private dwellings per dwelling, and only 2.98 at the 1981 Census. (These ratios understate the number of persons per physical dwelling unit, as more than one household may occupy a single unit, and if each household submits a household schedule, each will be counted for census purposes, as a separate occupied private dwelling.) These ratios differ from those in Table 8.1 which were calculated using estimated resident population.

Table 8.11 shows the census counted population in occupied private dwellings by structure of dwelling for Tasmania:

**Table 8.11 Number of Occupants Per Dwelling By Structure of Dwelling: Census 30 June 1981**

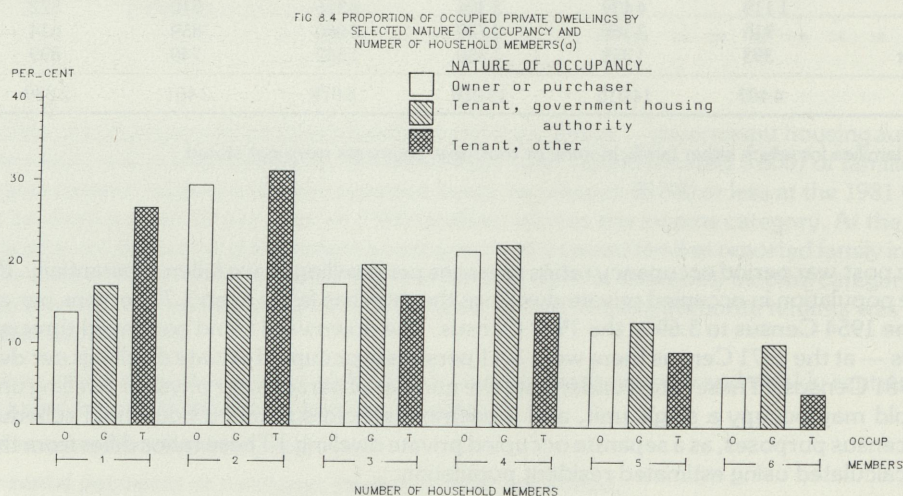
Structure of dwelling	Census counted persons in dwellings						Grand Total
	Number of occupants per dwelling						
	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	
Separate house	15 432	65 720	63 457	100 487	69 615	50 732	365 441
Semi-detached house	751	1 794	989	899	465	301	5 199
Row or terrace house	442	639	238	221	110	81	1 727
Other medium density	5 780	8 537	3 367	1 793	736	434	20 643
Flats over 3 storeys	287	397	107	51	16	—	860
Caravan, houseboat, etc	253	360	196	185	101	50	1 140
Improvised home	104	97	44	88	49	33	415
Dwelling/non dwelling combined	324	799	666	961	731	537	4 015
Not stated	389	855	656	912	596	554	3 964
TOTAL	23 761	79 196	69 719	105 595	72 416	52 720	403 406



**Table 8.12 Occupants by Occupied Private Dwelling by Dwelling Structure:  
Census 30 June 1981**

Structure of dwelling	Number of occupied private dwellings	Census counted occupants	Census counted occupants per dwelling
Separate house	116 304	365 441	3.14
Semi-detached house	2 343	5 199	2.22
Row or terrace house	929	1 727	1.86
Other medium density	11 832	20 643	1.74
Flat over 3 storeys	540	860	1.59
Caravan, houseboat, etc.	572	1 140	1.99
Improvised home	205	415	2.02
Dwelling/non dwelling combined	1 414	4 015	2.84
Not stated	1 467	3 964	2.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>135 598</b>	<b>403 406</b>	<b>2.98</b>

Almost 60 per cent of occupied private dwellings occupied by tenants, other than tenants of the government housing authority, have only one or two household members. This is explained by the fact that many of these occupants are young people who have moved into a flat on their own or on a share basis or are young couples. Where the nature of occupancy was owner-purchaser or government tenant, 43 per cent and 35 per cent respectively, of occupied private dwellings contained one or two members at the 1981 Census. The other notable feature related to larger households — households with six or more members accounted for just over ten per cent of dwellings with government housing authority tenants and only six per cent of owner-purchaser occupied private dwellings.



(a) Proportions shown are for each household with a given number of members and occupancy type as a percentage of all occupied private dwellings in that occupancy category.

Just over 90 per cent of occupied separate houses in Tasmania contained five or less occupants at the 1981 Census. Almost 65 per cent of these occupied separate houses had three bedrooms while a further 13 per cent had four or more bedrooms. Only 22 per cent of occupied separate houses had only one or two bedrooms. In the case of other occupied private dwellings (e.g. flats, semi-detached houses, villa units, terrace houses, etc) 78 per cent contained only one or two occupants at the 1981 Census and a further 20 per cent were occupied by three to five persons. Seventy-nine per cent of other occupied private dwellings contained one or two bedrooms and a further 17 per cent had three or more bedrooms. (The number of bedrooms was not stated for almost four per cent of such dwellings.) These statistics indicate that generally the Tasmanian population is adequately catered for in terms of rooms available to occupants.

Table 8.13 shows the number of occupants by type of occupied private dwelling for each local government area at the 1981 Census. Apart from the LGAs of Glamorgan, Portland and Tasman (all are basically rural LGAs and popular retirement areas), Hobart and Launceston had the highest proportion of occupied separate houses with only one or two occupants. Both LGAs contain old suburbs out of which offspring have moved to form families in newer dormitory areas in adjacent LGAs. In the case of the Hobart area Clarence had 66 per cent of its separate houses occupied by three or more persons; Glenorchy, 59 per cent; and in Brighton, which contains the government housing suburbs of Bridgewater and Gagebrook, 82 per cent of separate houses contained three or more occupants. Around Launceston, 58 per cent of separate houses in Beaconsfield had three or more occupants; 66 per cent in Lilydale; and 67 per cent in St Leonards.



**Table 8.13 Occupied Separate Houses and Other Private Dwellings  
by Number of Occupants: Census June 1981  
(Per Cent)**

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division		Proportion of occupied private dwellings by number of occupants					
		Separate house with —			Other private dwellings with —		
		1, 2 occupants	3 to 5 occupants	6 or more occupants	1,2 occupants	3 to 5 occupants	6 or more occupants
Hobart (H)		51.7	43.8	4.5	82.2	16.9	0.9
Glenorchy (H)		41.4	52.6	6.0	80.5	18.1	1.3
Clarence (H)		34.1	58.5	7.5	78.1	20.5	1.5
Brighton (H) (S)		18.1	72.1	9.8	66.7	28.6	4.8
Kingborough (H) (S)		38.5	55.1	6.4	73.4	24.8	1.8
New Norfolk (H) (S)		36.2	56.1	7.7	64.3	30.7	5.0
Sorell (H) (S)		49.9	45.8	4.3	65.6	28.9	5.5
Bothwell (S)		50.8	42.8	6.4	83.3	16.7	—
Bruny (S)		69.1	27.5	3.4	100.0	—	—
Esperance (S)		46.5	47.1	6.4	64.3	28.6	7.1
Glamorgan (S)		59.4	37.7	2.9	62.0	38.0	—
Green Ponds (S)		42.4	48.8	8.8	37.5	50.0	12.5
Hamilton (S)		40.6	50.9	8.5	58.8	35.3	5.9
Huon (S)		40.0	51.7	8.3	68.5	31.5	—
Oatlands (S)		45.8	48.6	5.6	59.5	40.5	—
Port Cygnet (S)		47.7	43.9	8.5	66.7	33.3	—
Richmond (S)		46.6	46.8	6.6	71.1	28.9	—
Spring Bay (S)		44.9	47.0	8.1	65.2	34.8	—
Tasman (S)		59.1	37.8	3.2	69.2	30.8	—
HOBART STAT DIV		40.5	53.3	6.2	80.2	18.5	1.3
SOUTHERN STAT DIV		45.7	47.3	7.0	65.4	32.7	1.9
Launceston		53.2	42.6	4.2	80.2	18.5	1.2
Beaconsfield		42.1	51.9	5.9	69.3	27.2	3.5
Deloraine		46.5	46.1	7.4	64.7	35.3	—
Evandale		40.2	51.4	8.4	53.8	38.5	7.7
George Town		30.2	60.2	9.6	68.9	29.2	2.2
Lilydale		34.3	56.6	9.1	70.8	28.1	1.1
Longford		44.4	49.0	6.5	68.2	28.8	3.0
St Leonards		33.3	59.5	7.2	81.5	17.4	1.0
Westbury		41.8	51.3	6.9	76.3	22.2	1.5
Tamar Stat Subdivision		42.7	50.9	6.4	77.7	21.1	1.4
Campbell Town		44.1	48.5	7.5	75.0	25.0	—
Fingal		48.5	45.2	6.3	66.7	27.1	6.3
Flinders		43.4	49.4	7.2	81.0	19.0	—
Portland		54.4	40.2	5.2	69.6	28.4	2.0
Ringarooma		46.8	45.4	7.8	58.3	41.7	—
Ross		48.1	46.1	5.8	100.0	—	—
Scottsdale		45.2	49.1	5.7	68.5	29.5	1.9
North Eastern Stat Subdivision		47.2	46.3	6.5	68.3	29.3	2.4
NORTHERN STAT DIV		43.4	50.3	6.4	76.9	21.6	1.5
Burnie		39.7	52.2	8.1	82.5	16.5	1.0
Circular Head		37.7	54.1	8.2	71.5	28.5	—
Devonport		41.5	52.4	6.1	79.6	18.6	1.8
Kentish		39.7	50.8	9.5	70.0	26.7	3.3
King Island		38.5	54.4	7.1	72.6	22.6	4.8
Latrobe		42.9	48.8	8.2	76.5	23.5	—
Penguin		39.9	52.1	8.0	68.9	26.2	4.9
Ulverstone		43.3	49.3	7.4	78.7	20.4	0.9
Wynyard		39.8	50.7	9.5	79.6	19.5	0.9
North Western Stat Subdivision		40.7	51.6	7.7	78.7	19.9	1.8
Gormanston		46.3	43.9	9.8	—	—	—
Queenstown		39.3	53.8	6.9	58.2	35.4	6.3
Strahan		47.7	44.1	8.2	65.2	34.8	—
Waratah		24.3	69.6	6.1	75.0	20.6	4.4
Zeehan		25.8	63.6	10.6	41.0	48.6	10.4
Western Stat Subdivision		31.5	60.1	8.4	53.2	38.3	8.5
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV		39.8	52.4	7.8	75.0	22.5	2.8
TASMANIA		41.5	51.8	6.7	18.1	20.4	1.6



### Government Assistance for Housing

The principal financial assistance made available for housing is through Commonwealth-State housing agreements. Assistance for government provided housing through such agreements commenced in 1945-46. Assistance is for provision of rental accommodation and homes for sale to families with low or moderate incomes. Payments include funds specifically to assist with provision of self-contained accommodation at reasonable rentals to pensioners who have had little or no means of support other than their pension. Funds are also provided to states for provision of housing to Australian aboriginals. Table 8.14 shows payments over recent years made to Tasmania.

**Table 8.14 Payments for Housing to Tasmania 1979-80 to 1984-85**  
(\$'000)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Recurrent grants</i>	<i>Capital payments</i>	<i>Total</i>
1979-80	314	14 957	15 271
1980-81	314	15 506	15 820
1981-82	314	13 553	13 867
1982-83	314	17 379	17 693
1983-84	314	24 011	24 325
1984-85 (a)	314	26 713	27 027

(a) Estimated.

Source: Commonwealth Government Budget Paper No. 7.

The 1983-84 capital payments to Tasmania comprised:

- (i) Other housing assistance — i.e. grants for housing not tied to specific programs \$22 449 000;
- (ii) pensioner housing \$866 000; and
- (iii) housing assistance for Australian aboriginals \$696 000.

Rental rebates are also available to low income tenants of government housing. For the year 1982-83 the rebate scheme was available to tenants whose income was below the State minimum wage of \$168 per week (approximately \$8 700 per annum). Such tenants were required to pay 20 per cent of their income in rent.

Over the period 1978 to 1983 the number of government authority housing tenants receiving rebates more than doubled. Tenants receiving rebates because they are unemployed or on sickness benefit have shown the greatest increase — from 322 at 30 June 1978, to 1574 at 30 June 1983. Overall the proportion of Housing Department tenants receiving rebates has increased from 51 per cent at 30 June 1978, to 69 per cent at 30 June 1983. The cost of rental rebates to the Housing Department has increased threefold over the period from \$2.6 m to \$7.8 m.

**Table 8.15 Number of Persons Receiving Rental Rebates at 30 June**

<i>Category of tenants receiving rebates</i>	<i>at 30 June</i>					
	<i>1978</i>	<i>1979</i>	<i>1980</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>1982</i>	<i>1983</i>
Aged person	1 160	1 345	1 498	1 571	1 693	1 820
Widows and single parents	1 157	1 655	1 798	2 268	2 680	2 835
Invalid pensioners	334	486	579	612	766	795
War pensioners	102	179	298	227	313	414
Unemployed and sickness beneficiaries	332	521	658	848	1 121	1 574
Other low income earners	65	241	278	94	107	124
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3 140</b>	<b>4 427</b>	<b>5 109</b>	<b>5 620</b>	<b>6 680</b>	<b>7 562</b>

Source: Director-General of Housing and Construction, Annual Report.



There is considerable demand for government housing. The pattern of demand has changed over recent years from one of predominately for separate three bedroom houses to a combination of detached and semi-detached one, two and three bedroom houses. This reflects increased demand by single persons, particularly pensioners, for government housing.

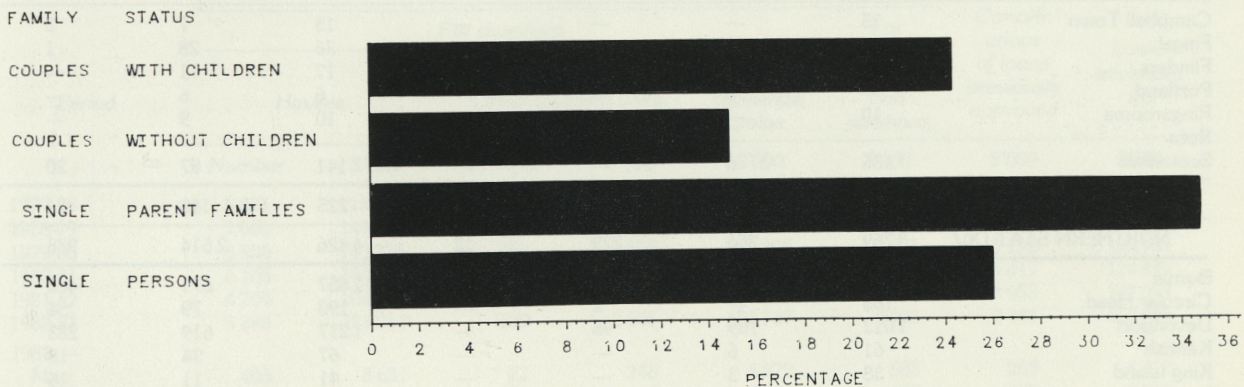
**Table 8.16 Demand for Housing Division Housing  
(Number)**

Details	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
Applications received	2 417	2 985	3 495	3 677	3 690	3 817
Cancelled	1 360	1 321	1 159	1 271	2 014	1 902
Applicants housed —						
New dwellings	832	878	730	774	687	602
Vacated dwellings	809	882	1 142	1 276	1 458	1 429
Applications on hand at 30 June	3 564	3 468	3 932	4 288	3 819	3 703

Source: Director-General of Housing and Construction, Annual Report.

At 30 June 1983, 44 per cent of the applications for state housing were in the south, 27 per cent in the north and 29 per cent in the north-west. (The Housing Department regions approximate the ABS statistical division geography.) Seventy five per cent of applicants on hand at 30 June 1983 received some form of government funded pension or welfare benefit. Almost 31 per cent were unemployment beneficiaries and a further 16 per cent received the aged pension. Fig 8.5 illustrates the proportion of applicants on hand at 30 June 1983 according to family characteristics.

**FIG 8.5 PROPORTION OF APPLICANTS ON HAND  
FOR HOUSING DIVISION HOMES BY  
FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS 30 JUNE 1983  
(PER CENT)**



SOURCE: DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION  
ANNUAL REPORT

Table 8.17 shows Housing Department construction activity by local government area up to 30 June 1983. Fifty seven per cent of all dwelling units constructed by the Division have been built in the south of the State. Three local government areas (Glenorchy, Clarence and Brighton) accounted for almost 50 per cent of the dwelling units. Almost 10 600 of the units completed were rented out by the Housing Department. A further 5 085 were being purchased and 5 730 had been purchased from the Department. Local government areas with the highest number of dwelling units being rented from the Housing Department were, Clarence (1 830), Brighton (1 658), Glenorchy (1 347) and St Leonards (1 095).



Table 8.17 Dwellings Completed by Housing Department at 30 June 1983 and  
Number Controlled by Housing Department at 30 June 1983 (a)

Local government area Statistical subdivision Statistical division	Dwelling type				Total erected to 30 June 1983	Number controlled by Housing Department	
	Houses	Elderly person home units	Villa units	Multi- unit flats		Rented	Being purchased
Hobart (H)	121	167	68	262	618	521	5
Glenorchy (H)	3 775	460	160	46	4 441	1 347	1 270
Clarence (H)	3 752	256	158	—	4 166	1 830	1 240
Brighton (H) (S)	1 858	63	85	—	2 006	1 658	249
Kingborough (H) (S)	142	15	64	—	221	151	47
New Norfolk (H) (S)	438	53	12	—	503	231	147
Sorell (H) (S)	20	—	—	—	20	3	7
Bothwell (S)	—	3	—	—	3	3	—
Bruny (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Esperance (S)	59	—	—	—	59	24	21
Glamorgan (S)	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Green Ponds (S)	11	—	—	—	11	7	3
Hamilton (S)	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Huon (S)	22	—	—	—	22	10	7
Oatlands (S)	—	3	—	—	3	3	—
Port Cygnet (S)	22	3	—	—	25	18	4
Richmond (S)	9	—	—	—	9	3	2
Spring Bay (S)	59	—	—	—	59	14	3
Tasman (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
HOBERT STAT DIV } SOUTHERN STAT DIV }	10 289	1 023	547	308	12 167	5 824	3 005
Launceston	66	116	84	12	278	252	—
Beaconsfield	61	—	—	—	61	21	10
Deloraine	30	5	—	—	35	12	11
Evandale	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
George Town	959	22	33	—	1 014	652	183
Lilydale	673	16	31	—	720	404	214
Longford	35	6	—	—	41	27	8
St Leonards	1 737	181	131	—	2 049	1 095	488
Westbury	2	—	—	—	2	2	—
Tamar Stat Subdivision	3 564	346	279	12	4 201	2 466	914
Campbell Town	15	—	—	—	15	7	3
Fingal	31	5	—	—	36	28	1
Flinders	14	3	—	—	17	11	—
Portland	—	6	—	—	6	6	—
Ringarooma	10	—	—	—	10	9	—
Ross	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scottsdale	135	6	—	—	141	87	20
North Eastern Stat Subdivision	205	20	—	—	225	148	24
NORTHERN STAT DIV	3 769	366	279	12	4 426	2 614	938
Burnie	1 434	91	92	40	1 657	671	402
Circular Head	188	—	2	—	190	79	56
Devonport	1 012	109	96	—	1 217	619	283
Kentish	61	6	—	—	67	34	18
King Island	38	3	—	—	41	11	15
Latrobe	143	32	2	—	177	89	47
Penguin	171	28	6	—	205	74	46
Ulverstone	473	57	34	—	564	306	106
Wynyard	522	37	17	—	576	213	157
North Western Stat Subdivision	4 042	363	249	40	4 694	2 096	1 130
Gormanston	9	—	—	—	9	5	1
Queenstown	22	4	6	—	32	18	9
Strahan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waratah	26	—	—	—	26	1	2
Zeehan	32	7	—	—	39	15	—
Western Stat Subdivision	89	11	6	—	106	39	12
MERSEY-LYELL STAT DIV	4 131	374	255	40	4 800	2 135	1 142
TASMANIA	18 189	1 763	1 081	360	21 393	10 573	5 085

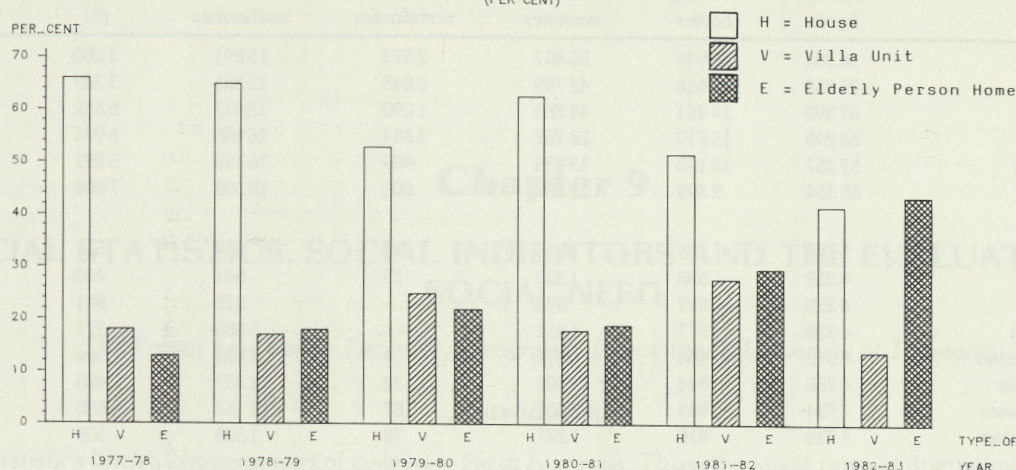
(a) Excludes movable units and neighbourhood houses.

Source: Director-General of Housing and Construction, Annual Report.



Over recent years the nature of units constructed by the Department has changed considerably. Houses have fallen from around 65 per cent of all units constructed in the mid 1970s to 42 per cent of all units in 1982-83 while elderly persons home units have increased from about 10 per cent to 44 per cent of total units built. These changes are illustrated in Fig 8.6.

FIG 8.6 PROPORTION OF DWELLINGS COMPLETED BY TYPE 1977-78 TO 1982-83(a)  
(PER CENT)



(A) Excludes mobile units - three per cent of units completed 1977-78

ANNUAL REPORT  
SOURCE: DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

### Housing Finance

The following tables summarise the sources of housing finance utilised in Tasmania. In 1982-83, 53 per cent of approved loans for construction or purchase of dwellings were made by savings banks. Building societies approved 18 per cent and government authorities 15 per cent.

Table 8.18 Loans Approved and Loans Advanced to Individuals for Housing (a), Tasmania

Period	Loans approved					For alterations and additions	Cancellations of loans previously approved	Loans advanced (b)
	For dwellings							
	Houses		Other dwelling units		All dwellings, value			
	Number	\$'000	Number	\$'000	\$'000			
1977-78	5 881	115 156	197	3 555	118 711	10 255	4 084	105 376
1978-79	7 061	149 416	142	2 632	152 048	10 463	4 549	134 592
1979-80	6 505	143 275	150	2 530	145 805	9 671	5 192	138 185
1980-81	6 105	134 514	176	3 122	137 636	9 638	4 417	124 825
1981-82	4 704	103 573	140	2 809	106 382	9 184	3 053	102 053
1982-83	5 283	121 261	139	2 506	123 767	8 495	2 444	110 845
1982 —								
May	405	8 631	21	348	8 979	585	208	8 512
June	331	7 206	10	170	7 376	683	189	8 313
July	299	6 609	8	132	6 741	634	287	6 851
August	336	7 369	14	349	7 718	679	237	7 025
September	351	7 598	11	207	7 805	692	57	7 546
October	430	10 024	7	138	10 162	526	269	7 100
November	462	10 245	14	194	10 439	762	100	9 132
December	430	9 234	8	119	9 353	784	257	12 448
1983 —								
January	370	8 415	11	163	8 578	428	151	5 170
February	495	11 399	15	265	11 664	828	163	9 168
March	572	14 036	14	208	14 244	918	229	11 815
April	458	10 832	11	174	11 006	685	168	9 541
May	561	13 114	19	396	13 510	779	316	12 415
June	521	12 386	7	161	12 547	780	210	12 634

(a) These statistics relate to secured finance provided by significant lenders to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation. Detailed information on scope and coverage is included in the publication 'Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia' (Cat. No. 5609.0).

(b) Excludes loans advanced by trading banks, details not collected.



**Table 8.19 Value of Loans Approved to Individuals for the Construction or Purchase of Dwellings for Owner Occupation (a), Tasmania (\$'000)**

Period	Loans approved by —						Total
	Savings banks	Trading banks	Building societies	Finance companies	Government authorities	Other (b)	
1977-78	54 384	16 946	25 857	2 573	15 691	3 260	118 711
1978-79	75 858	14 616	42 799	2 045	13 381	3 349	152 048
1979-80	67 399	14 481	44 260	1 090	12 013	6 562	145 805
1980-81	68 293	15 219	28 762	1 384	16 985	6 993	137 636
1981-82	57 357	12 133	13 836	989	16 140	5 927	106 382
1982-83	65 384	9 399	22 183	605	18 592	7 604	123 767
1982 —							
May	5 578	785	1 215	36	854	511	8 979
June	4 359	688	1 325	73	501	430	7 376
July	4 352	427	876	—	525	561	6 741
August	4 338	577	1 452	—	1 080	271	7 718
September	5 012	466	896	14	1 033	384	7 805
October	4 785	814	1 706	34	2 337	486	10 162
November	4 724	845	2 001	82	2 157	630	10 439
December	5 215	816	1 227	78	1 508	509	9 353
1983 —							
January	4 074	880	1 575	102	1 366	581	8 578
February	6 589	1 094	2 029	80	1 016	856	11 664
March	7 992	1 083	2 817	72	1 391	889	14 244
April	5 638	827	1 729	30	2 003	779	11 006
May	6 369	842	2 878	97	2 511	813	13 510
June	6 296	748	2 977	16	1 665	845	12 547

(a) See note (a) to Table 8.18 on previous page.

#### DATA REFERENCES

##### ABS Catalogue No.

##### Title

Note: Letters after title indicate issuing office — T = Tasmanian Office of the ABS, C/O = Central Office of the ABS.

2401.6	Census of Population and Housing 30 June 1981, Characteristics of the Population and Dwellings in Local Government Areas. (T)
2449.0	Cross Classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, 1981. Census of Population and Housing, Australia. (C/O)
2452.0	Cross Classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, 1981. Census of Population and Housing, Australia. (C/O)
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	Commonwealth Government Budget Paper No. 7.



## Chapter 9

### SOCIAL STATISTICS, SOCIAL INDICATORS AND THE EVALUATION OF SOCIAL NEED

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#### Introduction

Statistics form a common part of everyday life in Australia. Thus, the latest rates of unemployment, or the most recent increase in the consumer price index (CPI) are regular news items, as familiar to us as news of sporting results. What unemployment rates and the CPI have in common, and indeed the reason they are so widely reported, is that they are regarded as critical indicators of the state of the economy, or the 'economic health' of the nation. There has been a long tradition of collecting such economic statistics, and measures such as per capita Gross National Product have been widely used as measures of the growth of individual national economies, as well as for comparisons between nations with respect to levels of economic development.

Much of the rapid economic growth experienced by many western nations in the twenty years or so following the end of the second world war was equated, implicitly, with improved social well-being of the population. However, during the 1960s, there was a small but growing body of concern that doubted whether the economic growth of such nations had been matched by improvements in the quality of life. Two specific sources of this concern are noteworthy. The first was articulated within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), of which Australia is a member state. In 1970, the OECD issued a Ministerial statement which stressed that "... growth is not an end in itself, but rather an instrument in creating better conditions of life" (OECD, 1982, 7). Not only was the reason for economic growth scrutinised, but there were increasing expressions of concern as to whether the benefits of economic growth were reaching all segments of society. Thus, concern at some of the undesirable side effects of rapid economic growth, including pollution and elements of social disintegration, stimulated the call for "... improved measures of more dimensions of the socio-economic system, by developing social indicators to complement existing statistics which measure growth performance purely in economic terms" (OECD, 1976, 5).

The second important initiative for the development of social statistics came from an unexpected source—the American space programme. In the 1960s the United States space agency NASA called for a study into the direct and indirect effects of the national space programme on American society. Researchers responding to this call immediately identified as a critical problem how the state of a society could be measured at two or more points in time. Thus, new impetus was given to the formulation and development of social statistics and social accounts that could more accurately indicate the level of social well-being, or the quality of life of a nation.

Of course the collection of information on a wide range of social concerns is not new. The very term statistics was used initially in relation to 'matters of state'. In fact, the Oxford English Dictionary includes one definition of statistics as "in early use, that branch of political science dealing with the collection, classification, and discussion of facts bearing on the condition of a state or community." De Neufville has also noted that "the practice of quantifying societal phenomena for public decision-making goes back to the 18th century, and the idea, back at least to Sir William Petty and the Political Arithmeticians of the 17th century, whose interest was the 'Arts of Reasoning by Figures upon Things Relating to Government'" (1975, 11).

Since the 1960s, the collection and use of social statistics, and the formulation and development of social indicators have been actively pursued in many nations, and by government and policy agencies as well as by academic researchers. Given the broad aim of attempting to monitor social characteristics and levels of social well-being, it is not surprising that a common and uniform set of procedures and statistics for social accounting has not been developed. Nevertheless, there are some basic characteristics which can be identified.



### Social Statistics and Social Indicators

A fundamental distinction which can be made is between social *statistics* and social *indicators*. The Australian Department of Home Affairs & Environment (1983) has made the following distinction. "Statistics are simply numerical facts systematically collected. However indicators involve the selection and presentation of statistics (including data manipulation such as deriving ratio and indexes) in order to represent defined variables or outcomes, in a way that is meaningful, reliable, able to be measured over time, and capable of disaggregation to the level of the relevant social unit" (1983, 1).

The OECD makes a distinction between social indicators and national accounts. "Social service facilities and activities (and, to a lesser extent, social structures, conditions and processes) are increasingly being monitored by national accounts which trace developments in the fields of education, health, social protection and housing . . . . Social indicators are focused on the well-being of the individual and thus, by taking a macro-approach and micro-approach respectively, national accounts and social indicators are attempting to define different but complementary aspects of social welfare" (OECD, 1982, 10).

By such definitions it is likely that much of the Tasmanian information in this publication can be regarded as social statistics, or social accounts, rather than social indicators. Indeed, this being reflected by the title of this publication (*Social Report*) rather than the use of the term social indicators which has been used in the past for a series of publications published by ABS since 1976.

Much of the distinction between social statistics and social indicators is related as instruments for monitoring the progress or goal achievements of major social programmes. Some social statistics may be directly related to this broad aim. For example, census data on the educational qualifications of the population are important in determining the success of stated policies to increase the proportion of the population proceeding beyond the minimum required years of schooling. By way of contrast, other statistics from the census, such as the number of children in the pre-school age groups, is of no direct normative interest. Such statistics are vital however, for developing indicators of need for child-care facilities, and for matching, say, the numbers of pre-school children with the number of working mothers in any area.

Many different definitions of social indicators may be found in the literature. It is inappropriate to review all of such definitions here, but some of the most common elements of social indicators can be identified by examining some of the key works in the social indicator literature.

### What are Social Indicators?

Definitions of social indicators vary widely. Part of this variation has been seen by some commentators as evidence of conceptual confusion (see, for example Moser, 1978). Undoubtedly there is some conceptual confusion, much of which arises out of a lack of adequate social theory which could form an appropriate framework within which the technical measurement of social conditions could be developed. In addition, definitional problems are compounded by the very broad field covered by the social indicator movement.

One simple definition, outlined in a study of housing conditions, states that "an indicator is . . . a numerical representation of a physical or social phenomenon, such as the number of dwellings that are unfit in a particular area, or the proportion of households in an area that are single-parent families, from which it may be possible to infer that 'stress' or 'deprivation' exist" (Department of Environment, 1975,3).

A definition which emphasises the practical value of social indicators has been provided by the OECD. "Social indicators attempt to monitor levels of well-being at various points of time, thus contributing to a more rational discussion of *specific* policies . . . . Indicators as the measurement component and policies as the action component are most effectively developed if it is clearly understood what is meant by well-being".

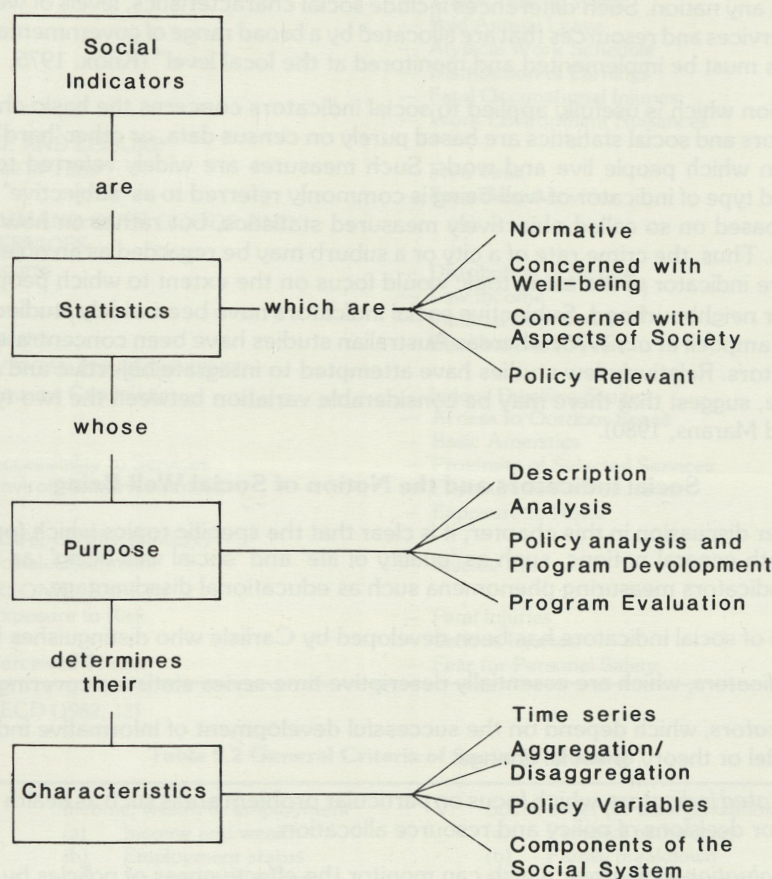
One of the most comprehensive definitions of social indicators, which has been widely cited in the literature, was provided by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare. According to this agency a social indicator is ". . . a statistic of direct normative interest which facilitates concise, comprehensive and balanced judgements about the conditions of major aspects of a society. It is in all cases a direct measure of welfare and is subject to the interpretation that, if it changes in the 'right' direction, while other things remain equal, things have got better, or people are 'better off'" (US Department of H.E.W., 1969, cited in Knox, 1982,92).

To complete the selection of definitions included in this chapter, a recent Australian study has defined social indicators as ". . . statistics concerned with individual and societal well-being, normative considerations, the major aspects of society, and have policy relevance" (Armstrong, 1982,6). However, more comprehensive is Armstrong's diagrammatic definition (reproduced here in Fig 9.1) which specifies several components of each of the main elements of the definition.



In addition to these definitions, further insights into the nature of social indicators can be gained by examining the criteria of the indicators themselves.

Fig 9.1 Definition of Social Indicators



(Armstrong 1982)

The OECD list of social indicators outlines eight specific criteria that have guided the development and selection of social indicators. Thus, the OECD suggests that social indicators should:—

- “be output-oriented or designed to describe a final social outcome, leaving to other statistics the quantification of inputs, throughputs or intermediate outputs;
- be relevant to policy — i.e. descriptive of prevailing social conditions which are potentially amendable to improvement through collective action or public policy;
- be applicable over a long period of time in a substantial number of Member countries. Actual values of the indicators may of course differ widely over time and across the whole OECD area;
- apply to conditions of individual well-being, excluding a number of “invisible public goods”, however desirable these are as an aspect of welfare;
- be independent of particular institutional arrangements, so as to be reasonably comparable between countries and over time;
- form part of a comprehensive grid portraying all areas of social concern;
- correspond closely to the social concern to which they relate, yet be more than a narrow description of social phenomena;
- form an integrated framework of definitions, specifications, statistical guidelines and disaggregations which should be compatible with other important sets of social and demographic statistics” (OECD, 1982, 10).



Two further characteristics of social indicators are worthy of discussion. The first relates to the disaggregation of social indicators by geographical areas. The OECD criterion of disaggregation (criterion h—above) does include breakdown by community size, but embraces a wide range of other variables for disaggregation including age, household type, and socio-economic status. Explicit disaggregation by geographic area has commonly been termed *territorial* social indicators (see, for example, Smith, 1973; Knox, 1975). The ability to measure well-being for small geographic areas is important given the stark differences between communities within any nation. Such differences include social characteristics, levels of well-being, and differing needs for specific services and resources that are allocated by a broad range of governmental welfare policies. "To be effective, policies must be implemented and monitored at the local level" (Knox, 1975, 11).

A final distinction which is usefully applied to social indicators concerns the basic character of their data. Many social indicators and social statistics are based purely on census data, or other 'hard' measures describing the environments in which people live and work. Such measures are widely referred to as 'objective' social indicators. A second type of indicator of well-being is commonly referred to as 'subjective' or 'perceptual'. Such indicators are not based on so called objectively measured statistics, but rather on how people perceive and evaluate conditions. Thus, the crime rate of a city or a suburb may be regarded as an objective social indicator, whereas a subjective indicator of the same topic would focus on the extent to which people felt safe, or feared crime in their city or neighbourhood. Subjective social indicators have been widely studied in the United States (see for example, Campbell *et al.*, 1976) whereas Australian studies have been concentrated overwhelmingly on the objective indicators. Relatively few studies have attempted to integrate objective and subjective indicators, and those that have, suggest that there may be considerable variation between the two types of measurement (Kuz, 1978; Lee and Marans, 1980).

### Social Indicators and the Notion of Social Well-Being

From the earlier discussion in this chapter, it is clear that the specific topics which form the focus of social indicators cover both general notions, such as 'quality of life' and 'social well-being', as well as more specific problem-oriented indicators measuring phenomena such as educational disadvantage.

A classification of social indicators has been developed by Carlisle who distinguishes between:—

1. *Informative indicators*, which are essentially descriptive time-series statistics covering a broad social field.
2. *Predictive indicators*, which depend on the successful development of informative indicators which can be linked to a model or theory of social change.
3. *Problem-orientated indicators*, which focus on particular problem areas such as health or housing to provide a sound basis for decisions of policy and resource allocation.
4. *Programme-evaluation indicators*, which can monitor the effectiveness of policies by quantifying specified dimensions of social conditions (Knox, 1975, 13).

The OECD list of social indicators is intended to cover both the general and the more specific problem-orientated indicators. The list, reproduced here as Table 9.1, covers social concerns which vary from basic health matters, to the discretionary use of time for leisure activities.

A similar list of broad concerns has been identified by Smith in his analysis of social well-being based on what he saw as general consensus in the literature (Smith 1973). The dimensions of social well-being cover seven broad areas, including income, wealth and employment, the living environment, and social order or disorganization. Smith's general criteria, and their component parts, are reproduced here in Table 9.2.

Table 9.1 The OECD List of Social Indicators

Social Concern	Indicator
HEALTH	
Length of Life	— Life expectancy
Healthfulness of Life	— Perinatal Mortality Rate
	— Short-term disability
	— Long-term disability
EDUCATION AND LEARNING	
Use of educational facilities	— Regular Education Experience
	— Adult Education
Learning	— Literacy Rate
EMPLOYMENT AND QUALITY OF WORKING LIFE	
Availability of Employment	— Unemployment Rate
	— Involuntary Part-time Work
	— Discouraged Workers

continued on next page



Table 9.1 The OECD List of Social Indicators — Continued

Social Concern	Indicator
EMPLOYMENT AND QUALITY OF WORKING LIFE ( <i>continued</i> )	
Quality of Working Life	— Average Working Hours — Travel Time to Work — Paid Annual Leave — Atypical Work Schedule — Distribution of Earnings — Fatal Occupational Injuries — Work Environment Nuisances
TIME AND LEISURE	
Use of Time	— Free Time — Free Time Activities
COMMAND OVER GOODS AND SERVICES	
Income	— Distribution of Income — Low Income — Material Deprivation
Wealth	— Distribution of Wealth
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
Housing Conditions	— Indoor Dwelling Space — Access to Outdoor Space — Basic Amenities
Accessibility to Services	— Proximity of Selected Services
Environmental Nuisances	— Exposure to Air Pollutants — Exposure to Noise
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT	
Social Attachment	— Suicide Rate
PERSONAL SAFETY	
Exposure to Risk	— Fatal Injuries — Serious Injuries
Perceived Threat	— Fear for Personal Safety

Source: OECD (1982, 13)

Table 9.2 General Criteria of Social Well-being

I.	Income, wealth & employment	V.	Social order (or disorganization)
	(a) Income and wealth		(a) Personal pathologies
	(b) Employment status		(b) Family breakdown
	(c) Income supplements		(c) Crime and delinquency
			(d) Public order and safety
II.	The living environment	VI.	Social Belonging (alienation and participation)
	(a) Housing		(a) Democratic participation
	(b) The neighborhood		(b) Criminal justice
	(c) The physical environment		(c) Segregation
III.	Health	VII.	Recreation and leisure
	(a) Physical health		(a) Recreation facilities
	(b) Mental health		(b) Culture and the arts
			(c) Leisure available
IV.	Education		
	(a) Achievement		
	(b) Duration and quality		

(from Smith 1973, 70)

### Problem-Orientated Social Indicators

The very general concerns of national accounts and broad social indicators with all-embracing notions of well-being and quality-of-life, contrast sharply with those social indicators that address specific problems. Most commonly, such indicators are designed to evaluate the relative needs of different geographic areas or communities of interest, with a view to targetting resources through ameliorative social planning.

The orientation and focus of problem-oriented studies can best be gauged by looking briefly at a number of Australian social indicator studies of this type.

An early study in this area was undertaken by the Planning Branch of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) which examined the relationship between social dysfunction and relative poverty in Melbourne. Specifically, the study looked at the effect of economic decline in certain suburbs, especially the inner city, and suburban differences in the incidence of unemployment, which were related to aspects of social dysfunction such as crime, notifiable disease, mental health and marital dissolution (MMBW 1974).



Another problem-orientated social indicator study was undertaken at a national level by the Social Welfare Commission's Family and Child Care Project (1975). This study developed indicators of need for child-care services and other community welfare facilities. The report used a number of critical demographic and social variables, such as age structure, and the number of children under five years of women in the workforce, to develop a five point needs rating for each local government area in Australia.

The third example of problem-orientated social indicators in Australia is probably the best known. It concerns the work of the Australian Schools Commission (Karmel Report) which has developed indicators of educational need, and identified disadvantaged schools. This evaluation was based on school resources, as well as a variety of social, economic and demographic characteristics of the schools' catchment areas. Such variables include income data and the number of non-English speaking residents. The measurement of educational disadvantage has also been developed in a more recent publication by Ross (1983).

### Techniques for Deriving Social Indicators

The technical measurement of social conditions and other social welfare concerns is as varied as the data used and the aims of the projects. At the simplest level, the social accounting projects depend on time series data for selected variables, with the normative assumptions of 'more is better'. Thus, increasing longevity would be taken as an indicator of the improving health standards of the population. The use of single variables as general social indicators could be extended to include the numerous social atlases that have been produced in recent years for Australian capital cities (see for example, McDonald and Guilfoyle, 1981; Lee, 1981; Division of National Mapping and ABS, 1984).

In addition to single variable indicators, there are several techniques which attempt to develop multidimensional indicators by mathematically combining more than one variable. Common techniques include the ranking of regions or suburbs on a number of critical indicators, and then summing the rankings to obtain a cumulative index of 'need' or 'well-being'.

Slightly more sophisticated approaches involve the calculation of *z* scores, or standard scores which measure an individual region in terms of standard deviation units from the mean value for that variable for all regions (Smith, 1973, 85). The most complex multidimensional indicators are derived from statistical techniques such as factor analysis and principal components analysis whereby a large data matrix, with many input variables, is transformed into a much smaller number of new, composite, or hybrid dimensions (see for example, Smith, 1973, 91; Little *et al.*, 1974).

However, many of these additive and multidimensional approaches share a number of basic methodological problems. These include the arbitrary selection of variables to be included in the analysis, the problems of data availability at all levels of geographic disaggregation, and whether or not certain variables are more important than others and deserve extra weighting in the mathematical transformations utilised.

### The State of the Art in Australia

From the number of Australian social indicators studies cited in this chapter, it is possible to get the impression, as Stimson has commented, that "the territorial social indicator movement in Australia is well advanced. Nothing could be further from the truth. This reflects not only data deficiencies in social statistics in Australia, but also the general lack of adequate social theory underlying the development of social indicators" (Stimson, 1982, 174-175).

Similar criticisms have been levelled by Vinson and Homel (1976) who relate the relative underdevelopment of statistics in Australia to four basic factors — lack of adequate social theory, poorly defined policy objectives, inadequacies of social statistics, and the excessive secrecy of the Australian bureaucracy.

While there are still many problems with the formulation of social policy in Australia and the development of adequate social statistics and social indicators, there is also evidence of some progress in the years since Vinson and Homel made their criticisms. The inadequacy of social statistics in Australia is slowly being addressed, and a number of initiatives in this area are noteworthy. Indeed, this very report which draws together a wide range of social data for Tasmania, is indicative of an increasing awareness that sound social policy must have an adequate data base upon which to work. Similarly, the combined efforts of the Division of National Mapping, ABS and the Australian Institute of Geographers to produce a uniform series of social atlases for Australian capital cities, with appropriate commentaries on a wide range of social, demographic and economic data, is a welcome initiative.

Another Tasmanian development in the provision of adequate social statistics has been taken by the Department of Social Security. DSS has produced a series of community profiles for Tasmania — one for each of its seven regional areas. These community profiles use simple diagrams, such as bar charts and age-sex pyramids, to show variations in a wide range of characteristics at different levels of geographic aggregation. Thus comparisons are available between the seven regions as well as intra-regional comparisons at the LGA level. For



the Hobart and Launceston urban areas these profiles are also available at the suburban level, while smaller urban centres are represented without disaggregation. The DSS community profiles combine census data with some of the departments own records. While the census is an invaluable source of social data, it does suffer the disadvantage that enumeration occurs only every five years. There is, however, a wealth of social data that is kept by a variety of government departments. Hitherto, government agencies have been reluctant to make such data publically available, and the DSS community profiles are a welcome break with this tradition. This information includes the number and type of different categories of pensions and benefits in different communities, and the duration of unemployment in different areas (DSS, 1984). Some of this material from DSS is also included in Chapter 6 of this publication. A similar sharing of information by government departments covering the fields of health, education, justice, and other social services, would provide a far sounder basis for the development of specific social indicators in Australia.

Comments on the apparent lack of adequate social theory have been noted above. While it is true that there is a dearth of theoretical discussion of this topic in Australia, there has been some notable work undertaken in the area by Ife (1980, 1983). Ife has questioned the assumption that social need (that is, the collective needs of particular communities) exists in some sort of independent and objectively measurable way.

Ife has pointed out that social need statements are essentially value-laden, and it is important, therefore, to ask who is making the need judgement, and why. Ife has developed a three part typology of statements of judgements of social need defined by (1) the population itself, (2) by community leaders ("caretaker-defined need"), or (3) by social administrators and researchers using 'objective' data. This third type of social need statement, which Ife refers to as "inferred need" is the category into which most "needs studies" currently fall. Ife's basic thesis is that each of these three different groups will have different perceptions of need and that patterns of resource allocation based on different approaches may vary significantly.

Ife's typology of needs statements is not an abstract academic concept. Rather it raises fundamental issues and questions about the determination of social need which are fundamental to the federal government's recent policy statements that there should be a needs based approach to social welfare expenditure, rather than the traditional submission model. Under the submission model, whereby organisations and community groups make applications for funding of services and facilities, the strong and the articulate groups and communities always gain a disproportionate share of finite resources. A needs-based approach to welfare resource allocation would redress this situation, but the question remains as to how the concept of need is best articulated.

### Conclusion

This *Social Report* for Tasmania represents an important development in the dissemination of social data which is necessary for evaluation of the overall well-being of the Tasmanian population, as well as for the formulation of more specifically problem-orientated social indicators. As such, this publication forms an important bench mark in the development of a welfare data base. This volume already incorporates time-series data which is universally acknowledged as critical for effective social monitoring. The publication of subsequent volumes of this report will extend and develop this data base.

Much of the discussion in this chapter has been about social indicators. However, it is clear that this publication does not develop a series of social indicators per se. Rather it gathers together a wide range of statistics that describe the general social conditions and circumstances of the Tasmanian population. The drawing together of statistics from diverse sources is an extremely useful function, for few social welfare agencies have the resources to undertake basic data collection and manipulation. Some, but not all of the data in this volume have been disaggregated by local government area or some other regional breakdown. Again, this is an important element for the formulation of indicators and a dimension that could well be developed and extended.

It would be naive to suggest that publication of a single volume of social data for Tasmania would provide a complete data base for the development of more specific social indicators, or for the effective implementation of a wide range of social welfare programmes. If social planning is to be effective in this State, it behoves government and non-government agencies to collectively determine the nature of data required for effective social monitoring and equitable resource allocation. This *Social Report* is an important first step in that direction.

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